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COMICS  
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WIN A *Columbia* TEN-SPEED  
FORMULA 10<sup>™</sup> RACER!



DETAILS INSIDE

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

# the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN<sup>®</sup>



1981 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

TM



STAN LEE PRESENTS A TRIP DOWN THE DARK ALLEY OF THE MIND WITH SPIDER-MAN!

# FOOLS...LIKE US!

NEW YORK'S BOWERY IS NOT A NICE PLACE TO BE AT ANY TIME. IN THE WEE HOURS BEFORE DAWN, IT'S PARTICULARLY BAD!

TRUST ME, LOU-- ONCE WE PUT THE KIBOSH ON THIS GUY, OUR REPS WILL BE MADE!

SHIK-KLIK

IN THE  
**DAILY BUGLE**  
A JAMESON EDITORIAL  
**MENACE!**

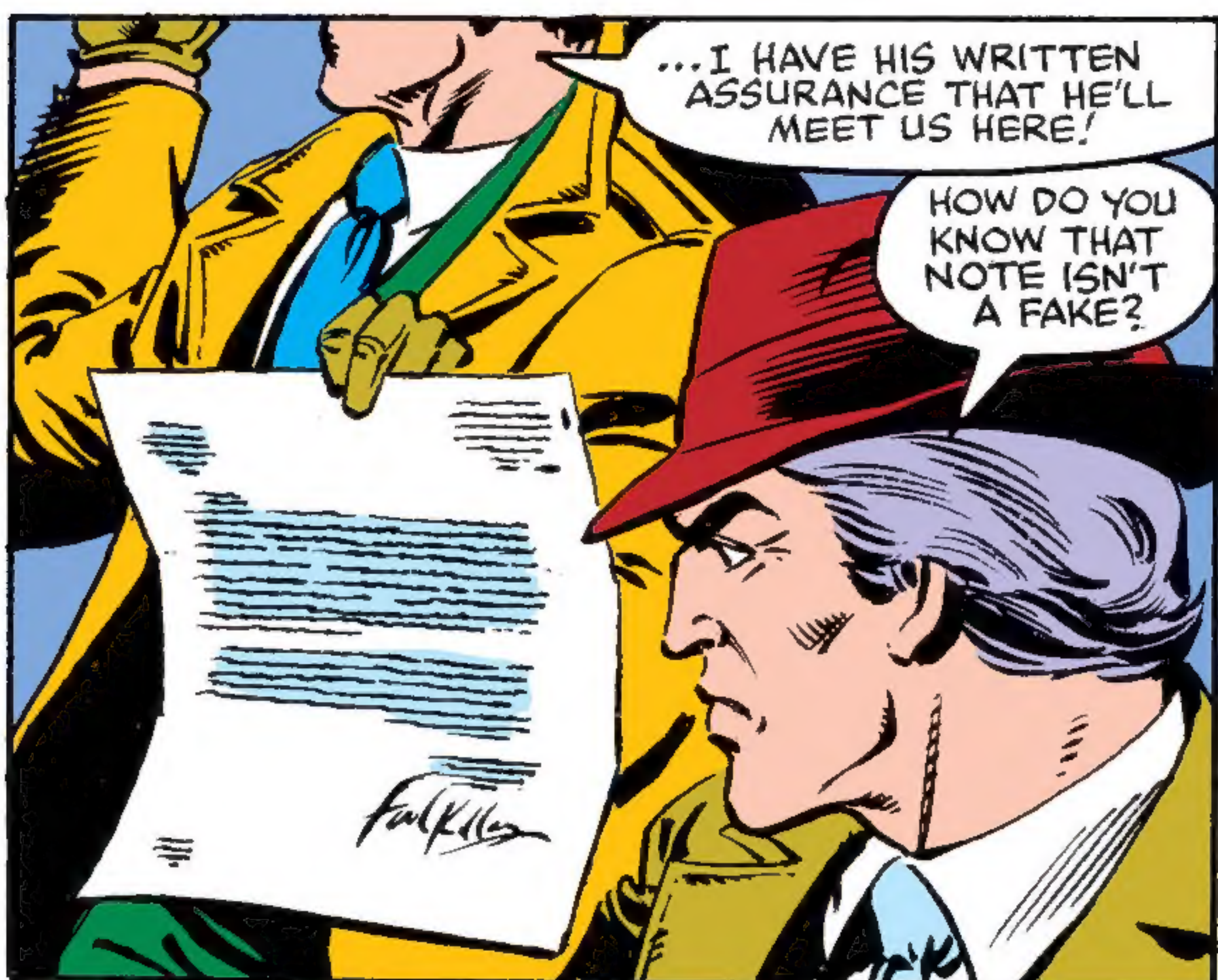
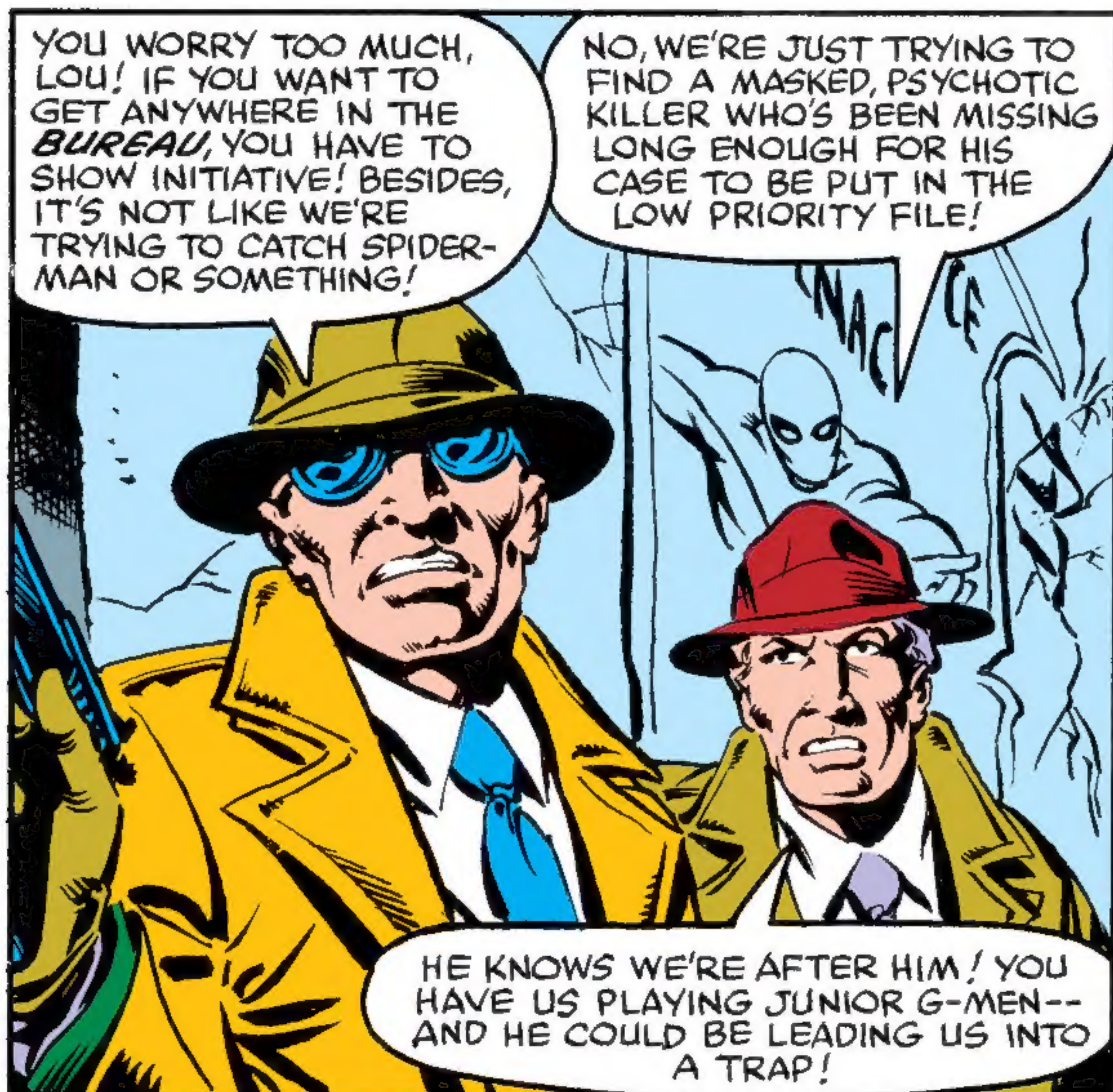
I STILL THINK I SHOULD HAVE MY HEAD EXAMINED FOR LETTING YOU TALK ME INTO THIS!

WILL YOU PUT THAT GUN AWAY??? THIS ISN'T "THE GANGSTER CHRONICLES!" YOU'RE GOING TO GET US KILLED!

ROGER STERN    JOHN ROMITA JR. & BOB WIACEK  
WRITER                      ARTISTS

JOE ROSEN - LETTERER    TOM DEFALCO - EDITOR  
GLYNIS WEIN - COLORIST    JIM SHOOTER - CHIEF







I TRIED TO WARN HIM! FROM THE VERY START, I TOLD HIM (IT WAS CRAZY TO CHECK OUT A CASE WE WEREN'T ASSIGNED TO!)

BUT HE NEVER LISTENED! "WE'LL INVESTIGATE IN OUR SPARE TIME," HE SAID. "SOLVE A COUPLE OF THESE NUT CASES, AND WE'LL BE THE CHIEF'S FAIR-HAired BOYS!"

POOR SAM! HIS INITIATIVE COST HIM HIS LIFE--

--AND IF I DON'T GET OUT OF HERE, IT'LL COST ME *MINE*!

WHUNGH!

THAT LAST BLAST KNOCKED ME OFF MY FEET! THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN NOW! I'LL HAVE TO --!

YAAAAH!

FOR SEVERAL AGONIZING MINUTES, THE FEDERAL MAN WEEPS, CRADLING WHAT WAS ONCE HIS LEFT HAND...

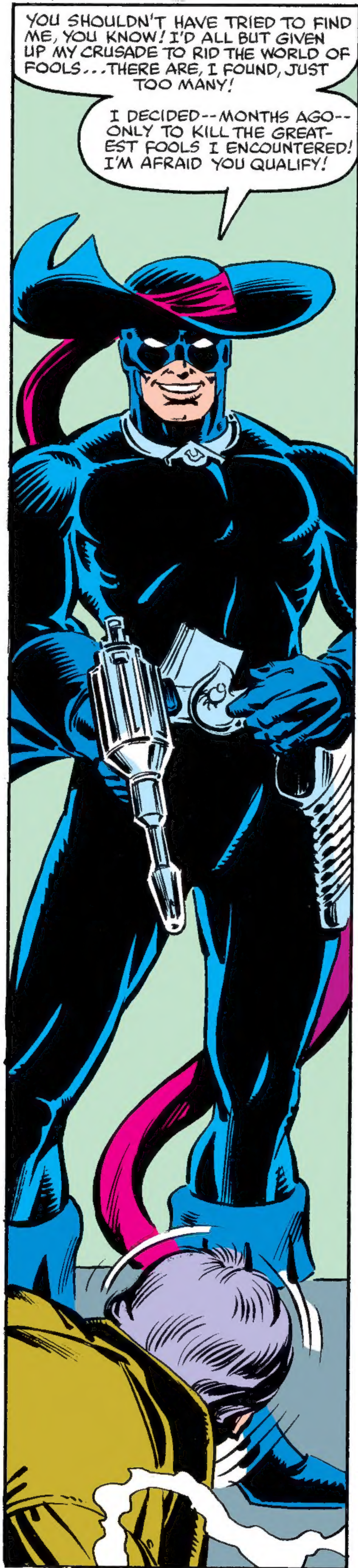
...FEELING AS THOUGH HE'S ALL ALONE IN THE WORLD!

UNFORTUNATELY, HE'S NOT!

MRRROW!

I BELIEVE YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ME...  
...FOOL!





YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TRIED TO FIND ME, YOU KNOW! I'D ALL BUT GIVEN UP MY CRUSADE TO RID THE WORLD OF FOOLS... THERE ARE, I FOUND, JUST TOO MANY!

I DECIDED--MONTHS AGO-- ONLY TO KILL THE GREAT-EST FOOLS I ENCOUNTERED! I'M AFRAID YOU QUALIFY!

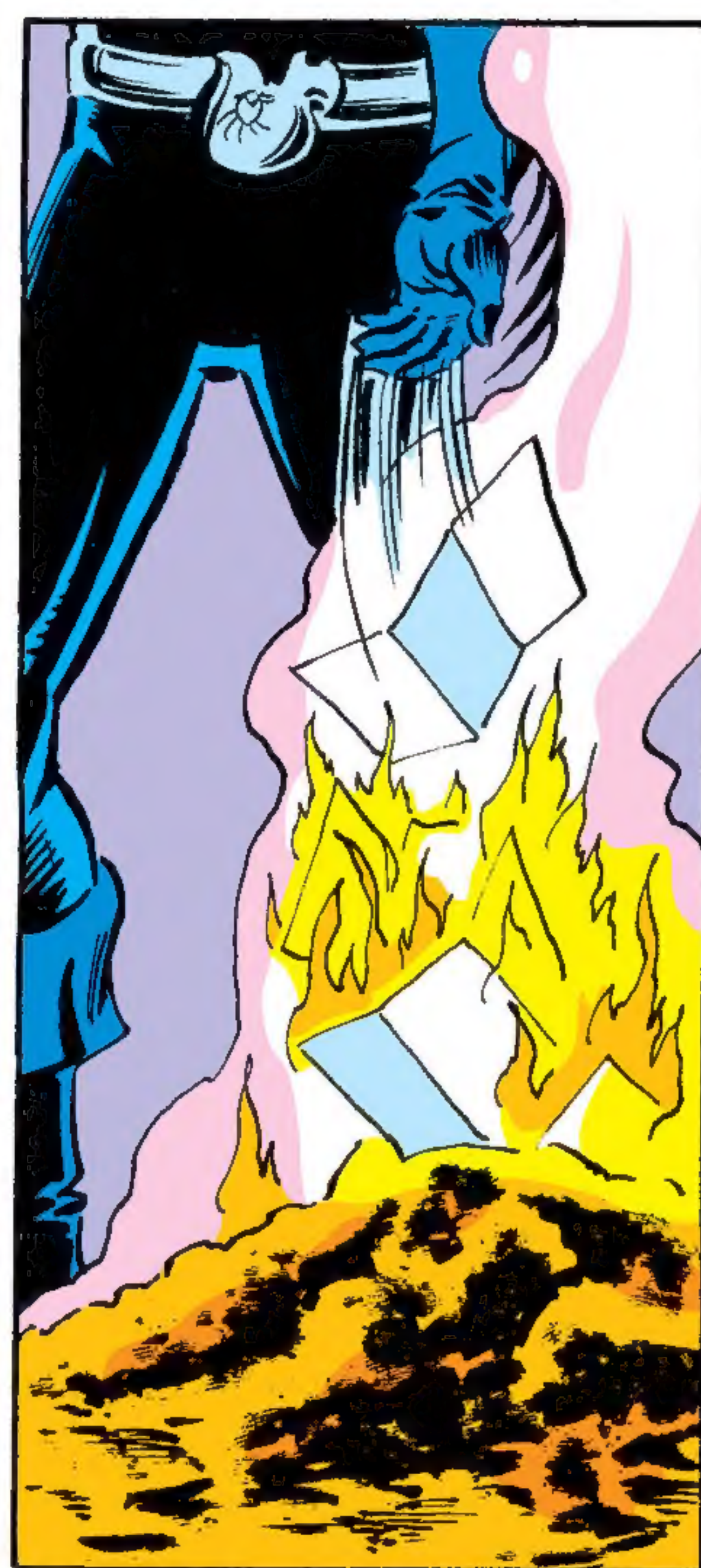


YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! THE BUREAU WILL FIND YOU! WHEN SAM AND I TURN UP MISSING, THEY'LL SEARCH OUR APART-MENTS--

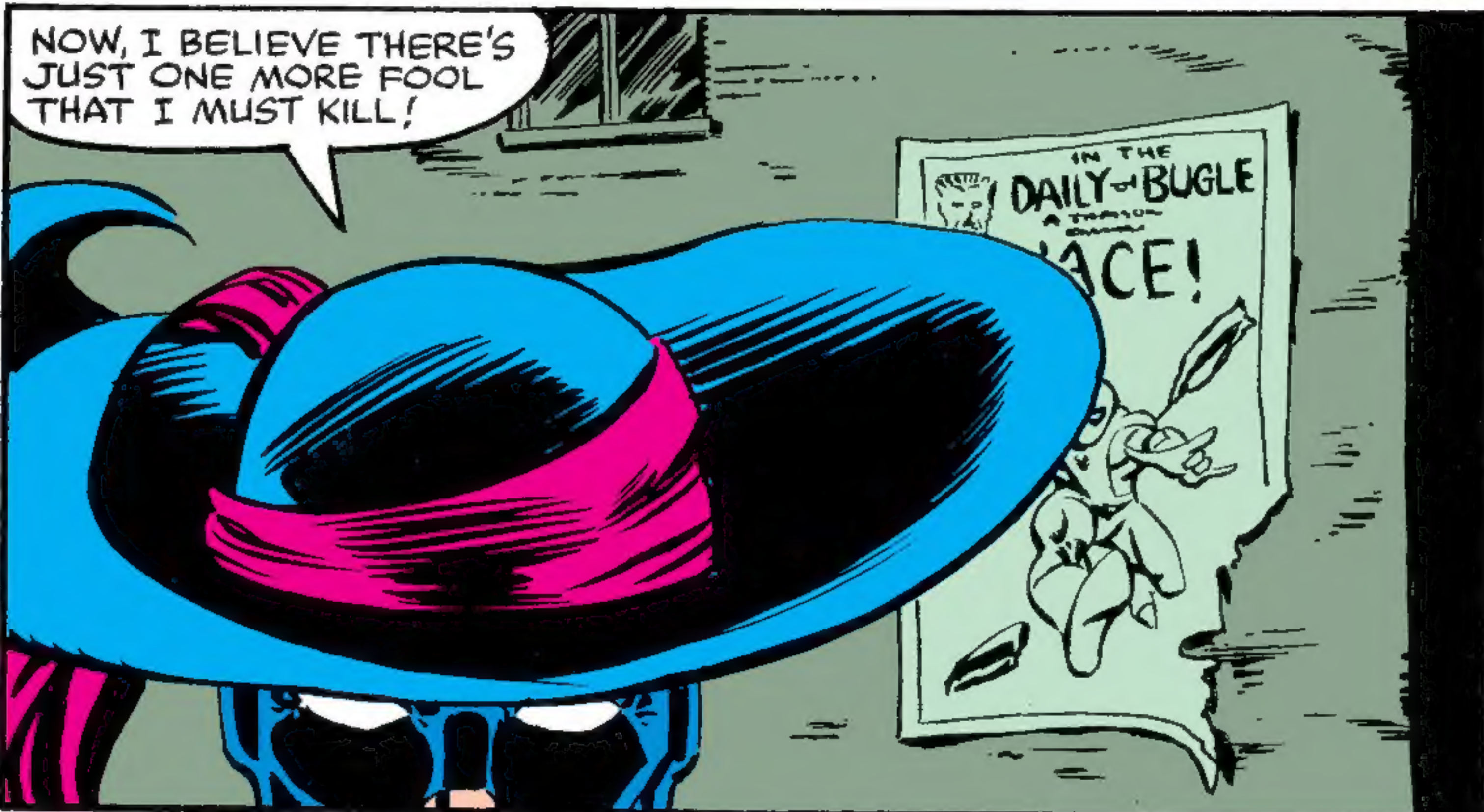
--AND FIND THE NOTES WE... LEFT... BEHIND.



YOU MEAN... THESE?

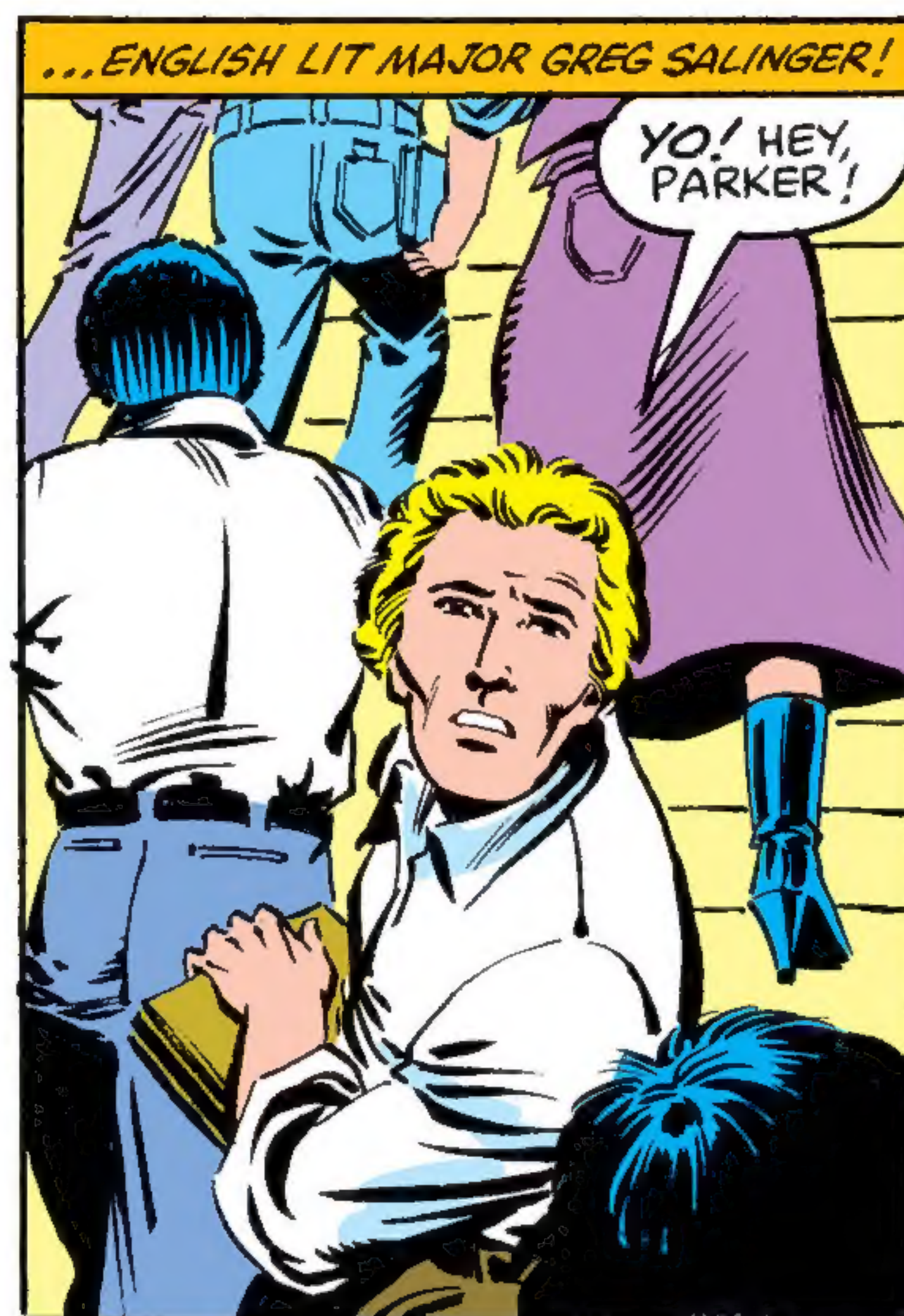
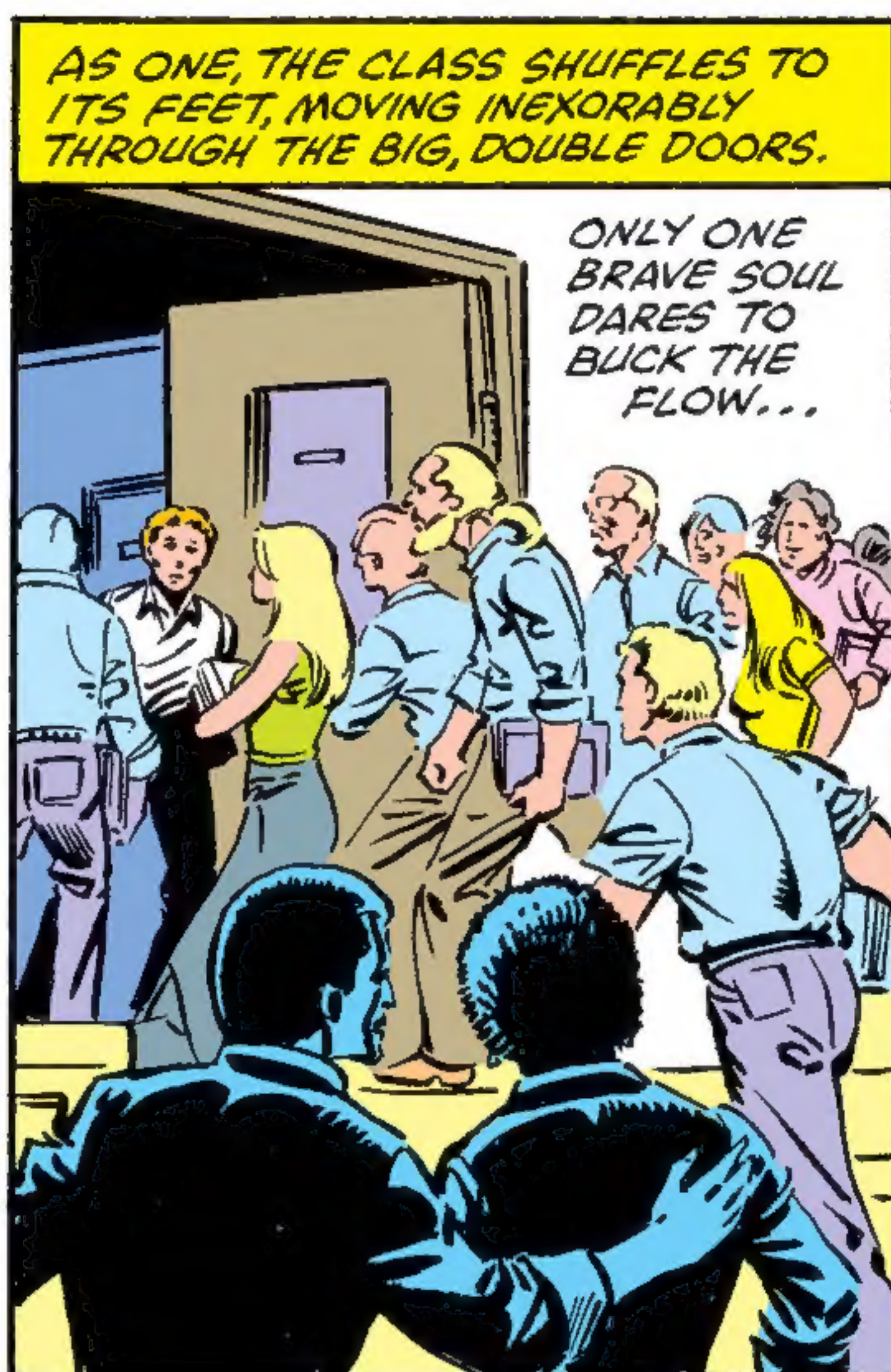
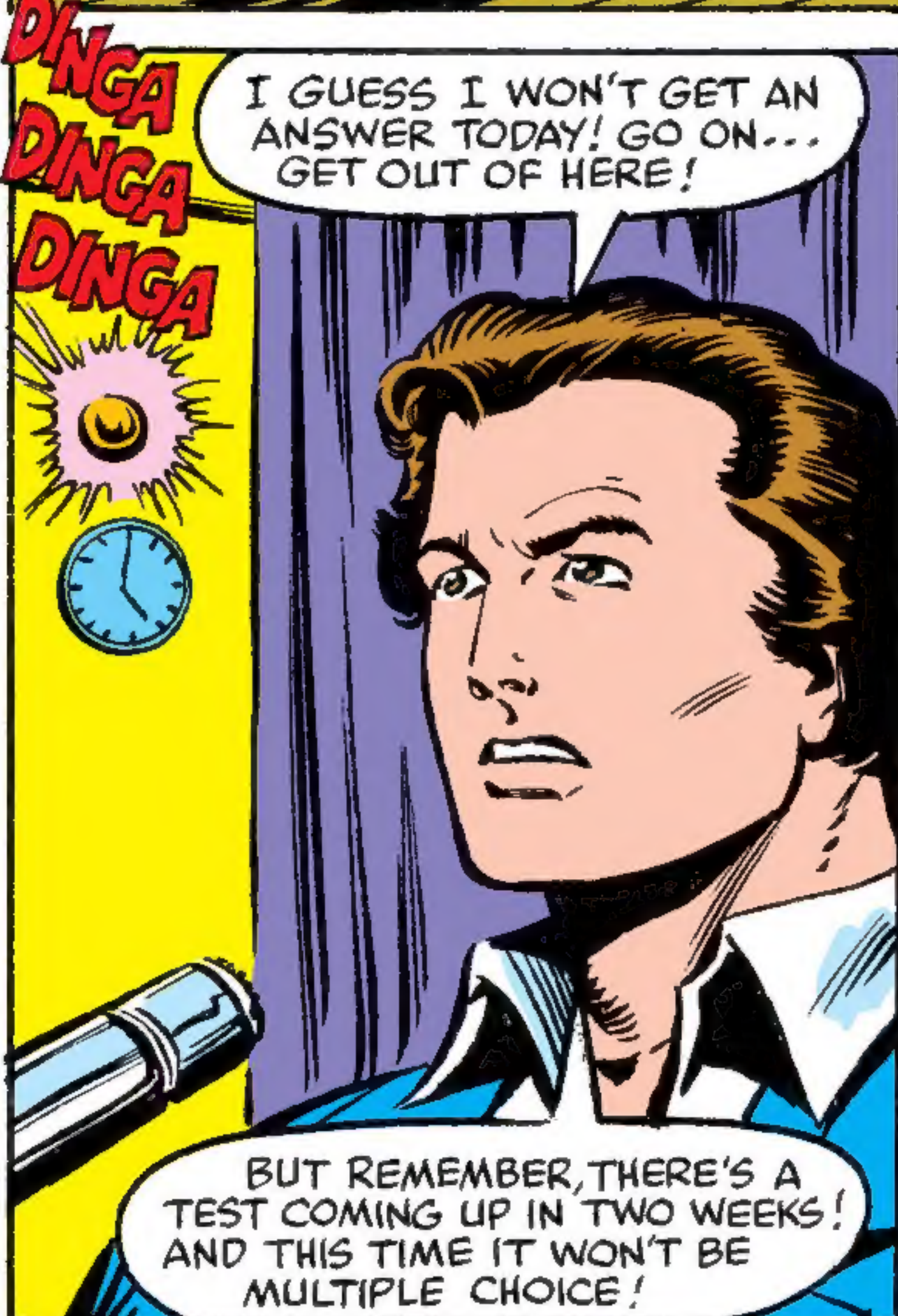
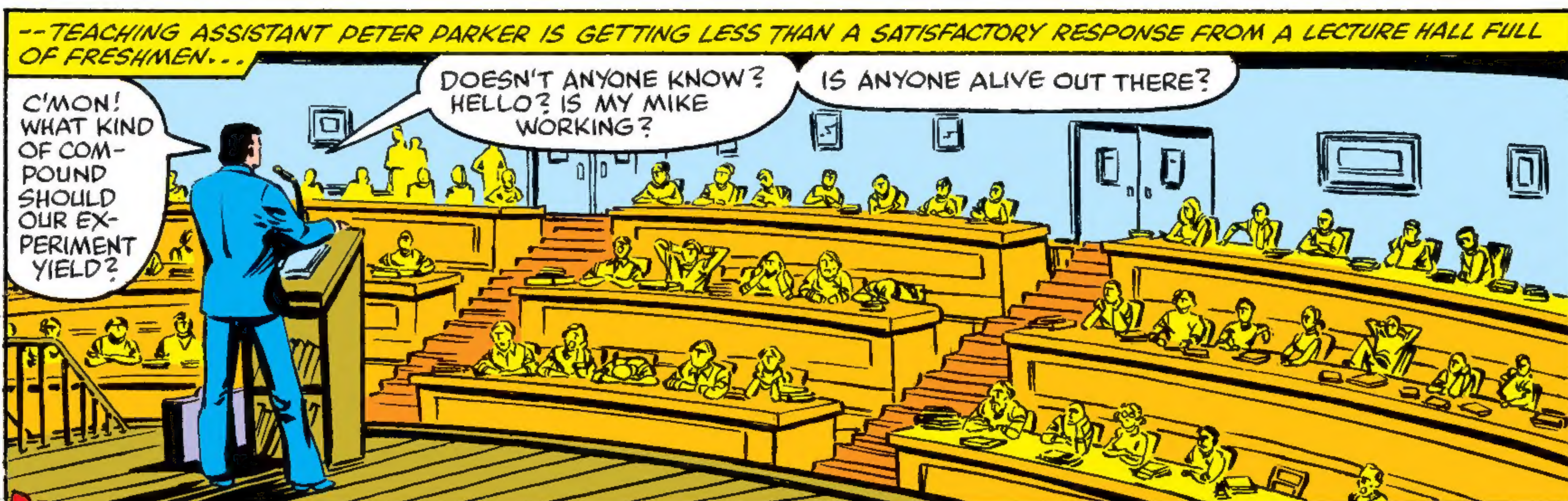
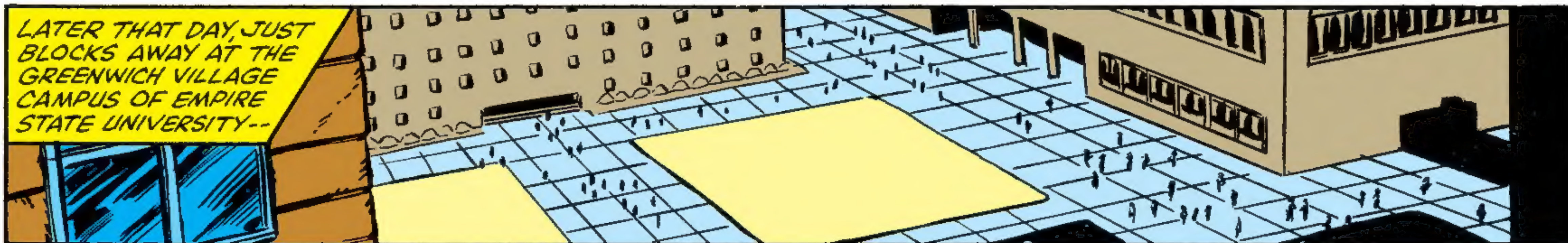


NOW, I BELIEVE THERE'S JUST ONE MORE FOOL THAT I MUST KILL!



IN THE DAILY BUGLE  
A THUNDER  
FACE!







THE HOURS PASS QUICKLY, AND LONG AFTER SUNDOWN...

YAWN! SUPERVISING EVENING LABS IS FOR THE BIRDS, BUT WITH THE FLACK I'VE BEEN GETTING FROM DR. SLOAN OVER MY CHRONIC TARDINESS, I DON'T DARE COMPLAIN!

I CAN'T VERY WELL TELL HIM THAT SO MUCH OF MY TIME IS SPENT BEING SPIDER-MAN! WHAT AN EXCUSE THAT WOULD BE--

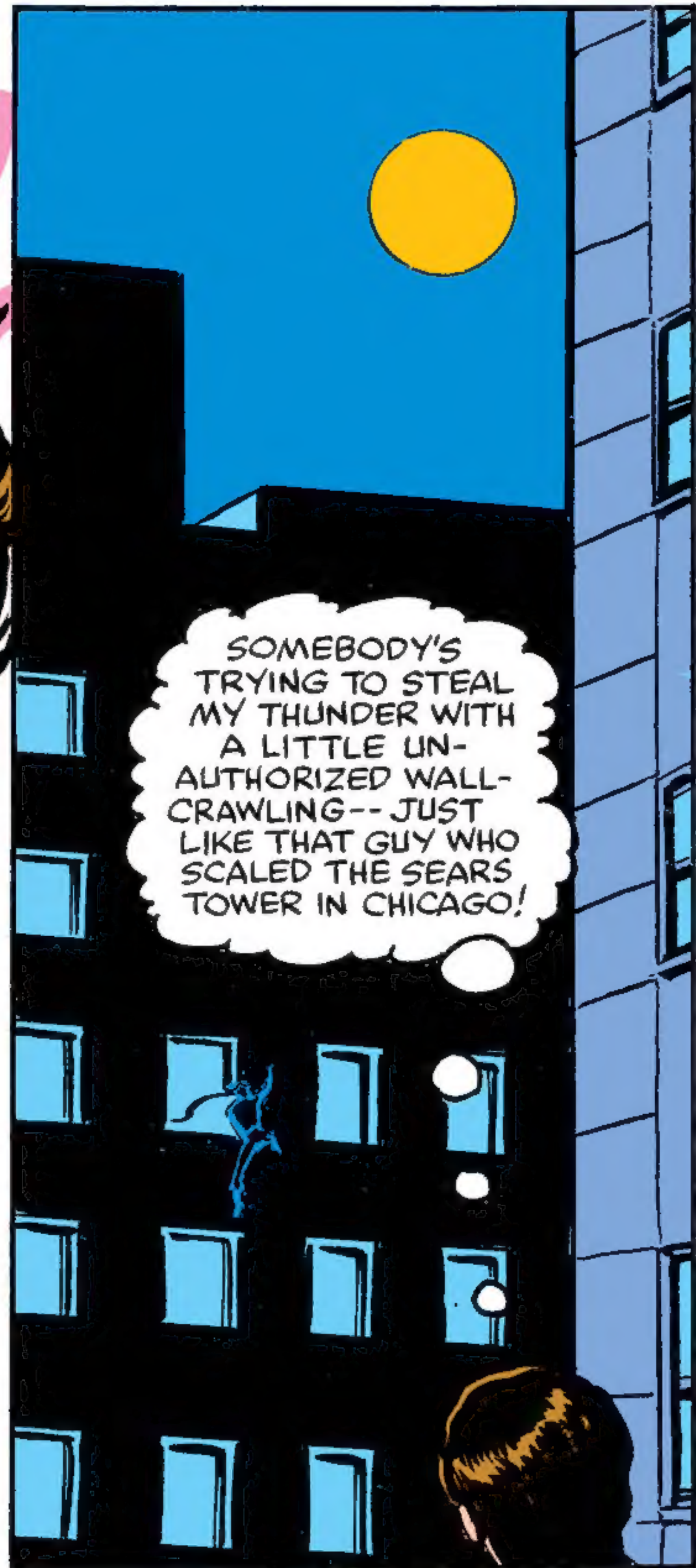


"SORRY, SIR, BETWEEN SEARCHING FOR THE VULTURE, BATTLING GOLDBUG, AND HELPING STOP LIGHTMASTER-- I'VE BEEN VERY BUSY!"

\*AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #224, SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #62 & MARVEL TEAM-UP #113, RESPECTIVELY.

WHOA-HO! THERE GOES THE OLD SPIDER-SENSE TINGLE AGAIN! NOW WHAT?

EH? I DON'T BELIEVE IT!



SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO STEAL MY THUNDER WITH A LITTLE UN-AUTHORIZED WALL-CRAWLING-- JUST LIKE THAT GUY WHO SCALED THE SEARS TOWER IN CHICAGO!

BUT WITH THE DANGER SIGNAL I'M PICKING UP, THIS FELLA HAS TO BE UP TO NO GOOD!

METHINKS I SHOULD CHECK THIS OUT! AFTER ALL, I'M DUE A FEW CHUCKLES!



AND BESIDES, THE LOCAL WALL-CRAWLERS UNION HAS VERY STRICT ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS!

HECK, I HAD TO BE BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER TO JOIN!



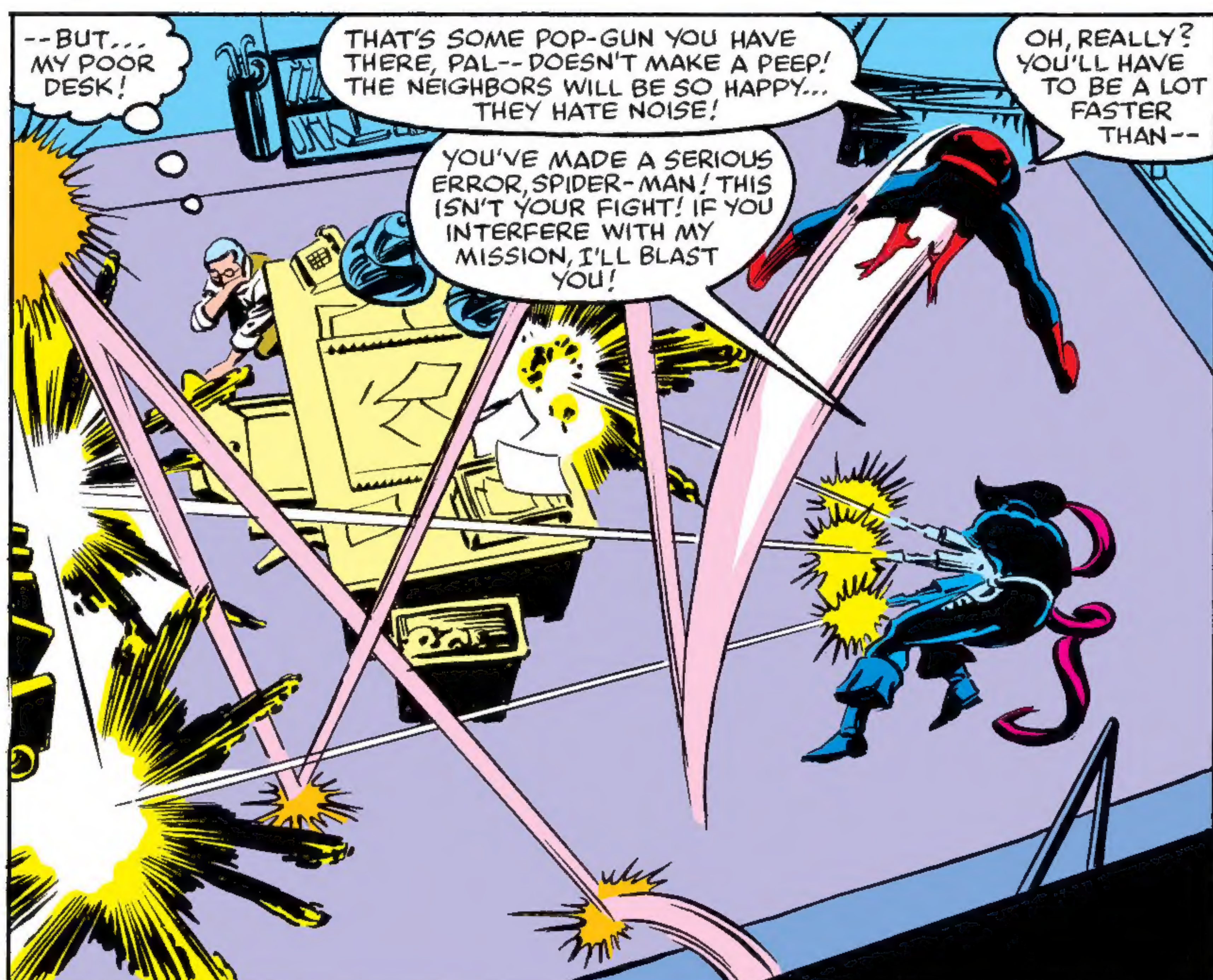
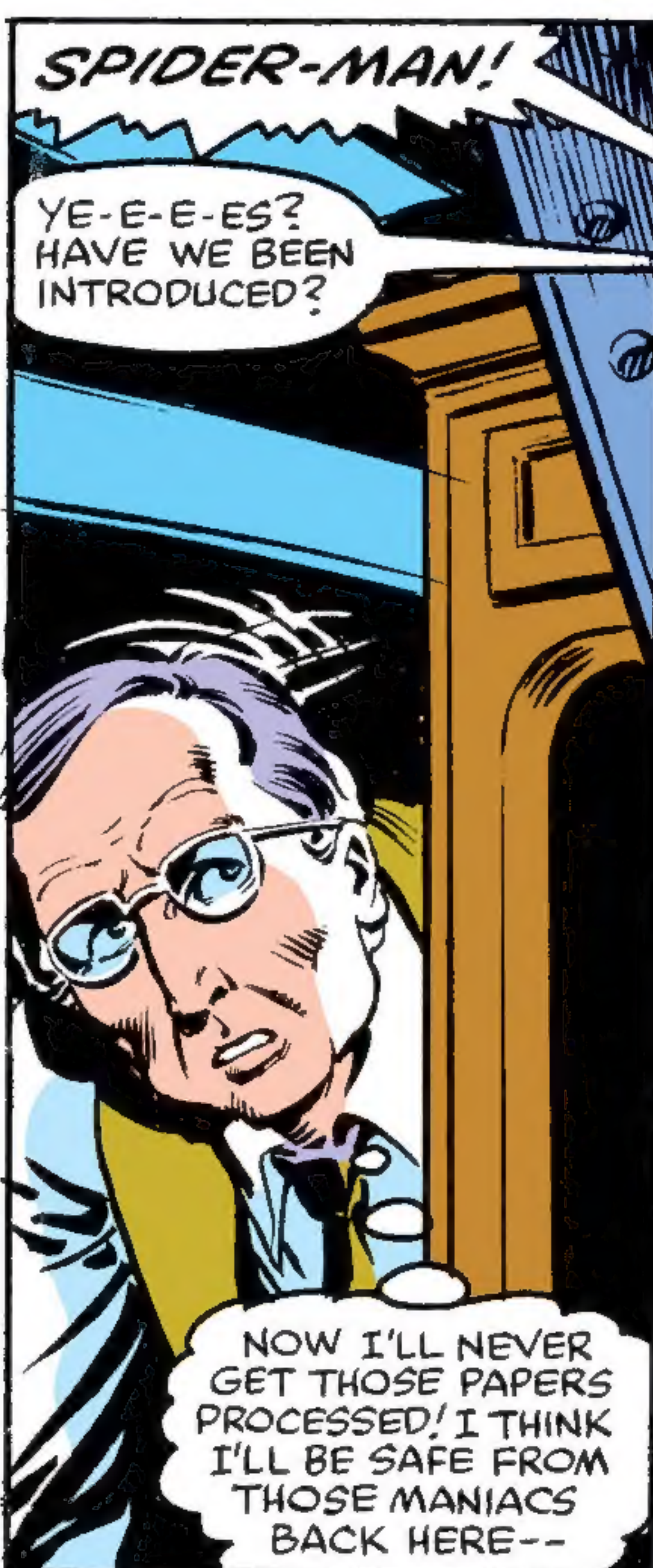
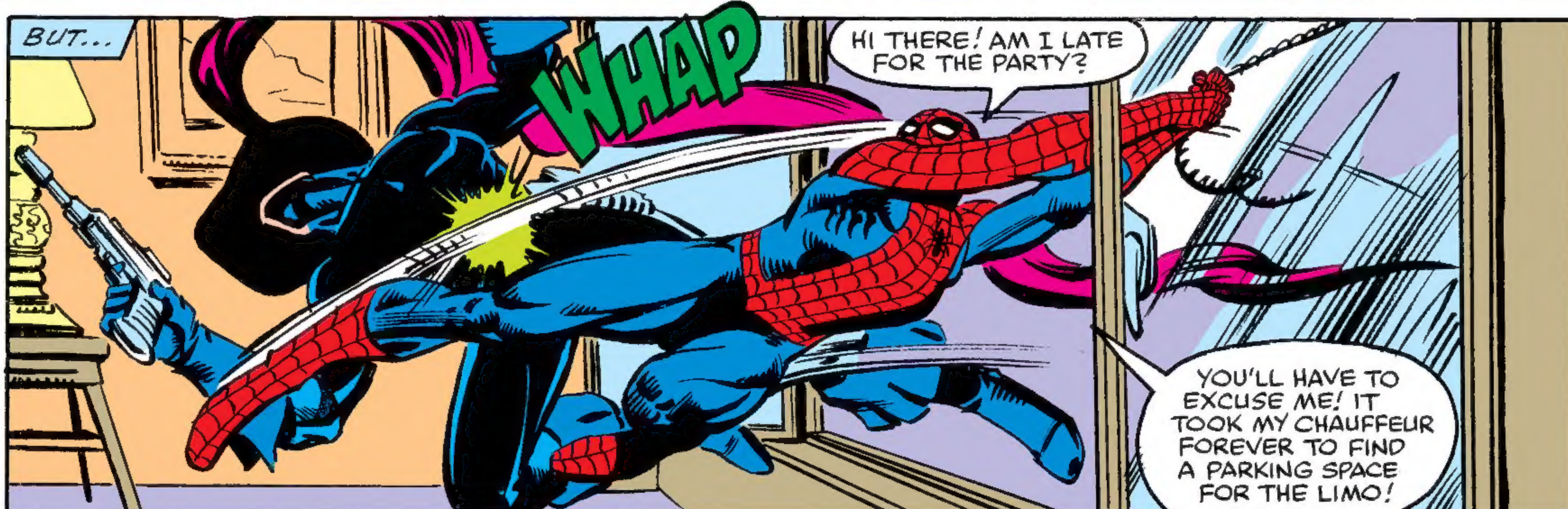
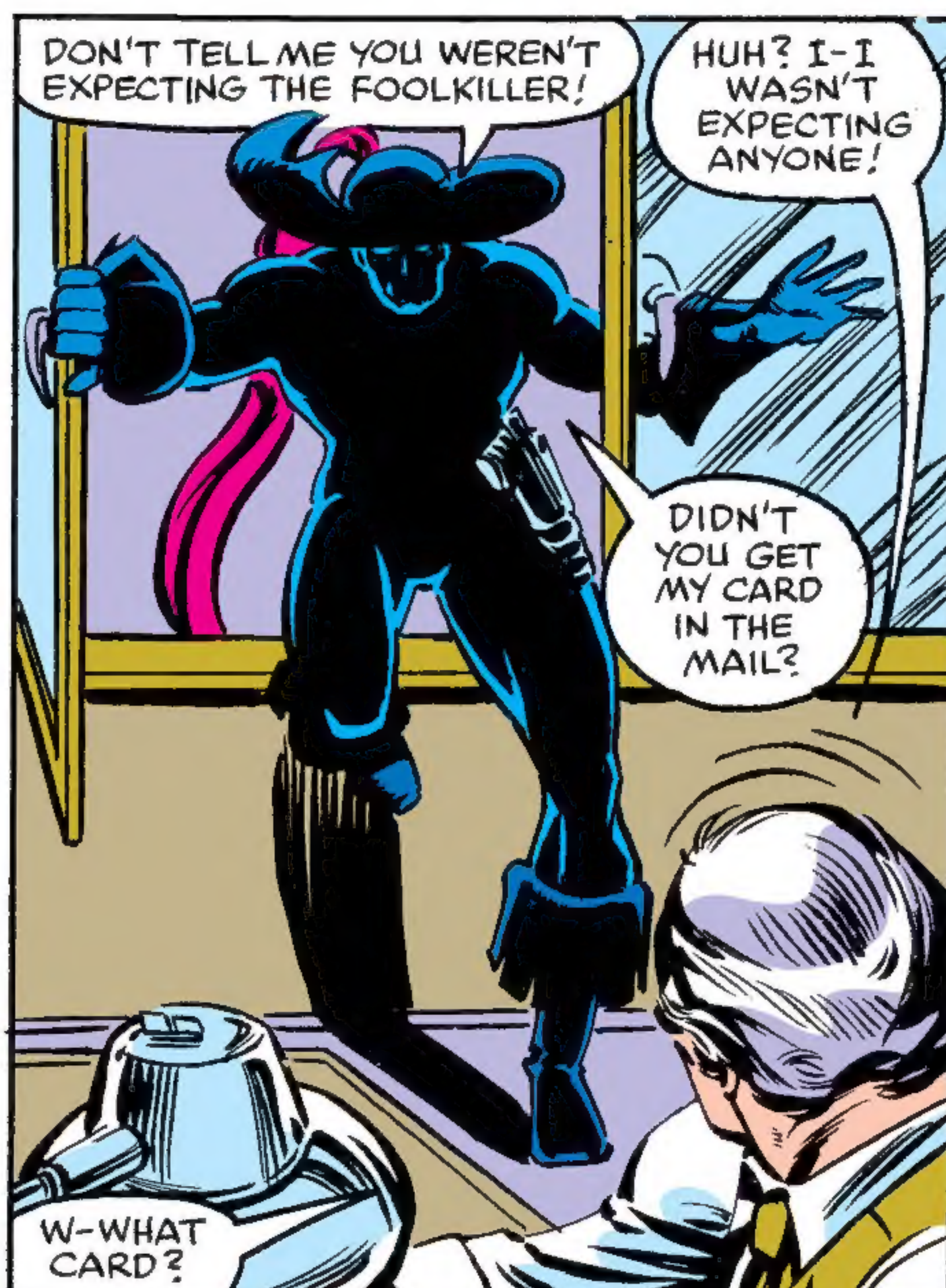
AND, AS PETER CHANGES TO MORE COLORFUL ATTIRE--

--ON AN UPPER FLOOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, REGISTRAR HARVEY McNAMARA IS PUTTING IN A LITTLE FORCED OVERTIME...

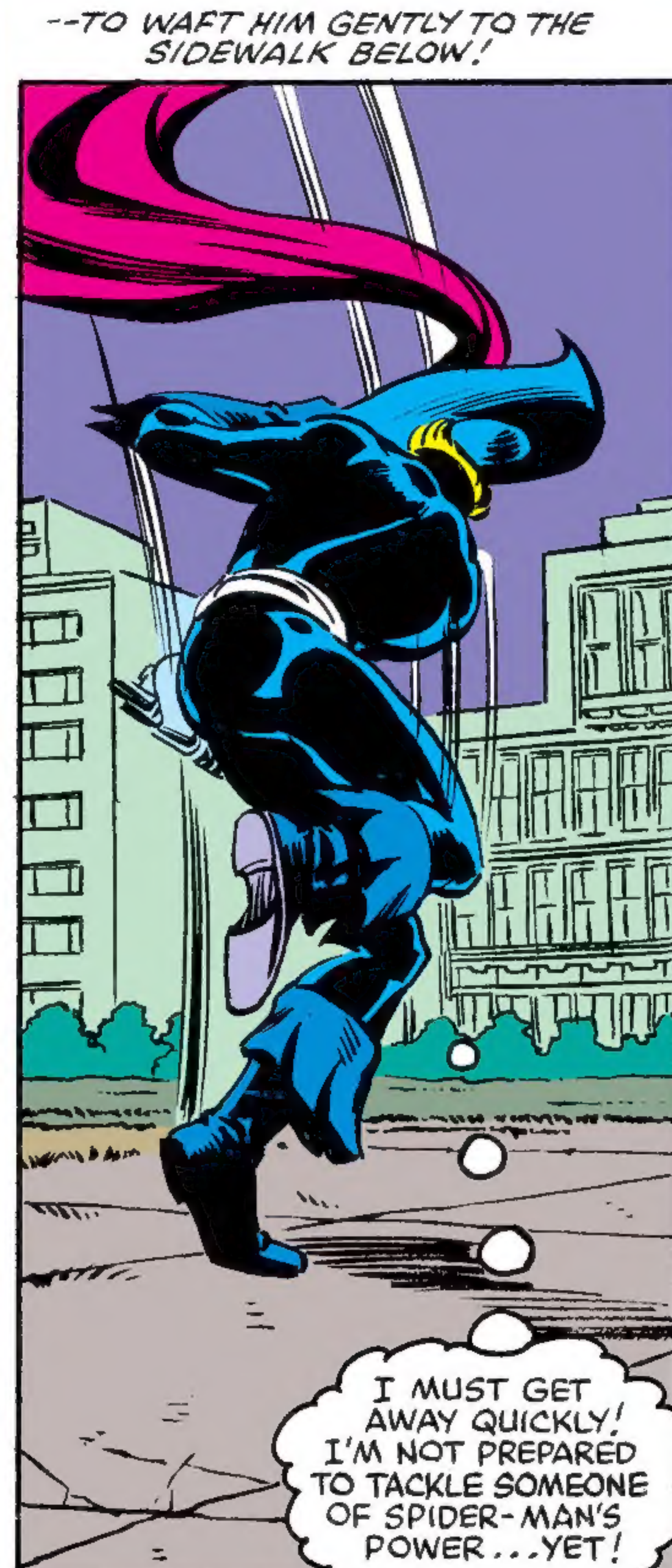
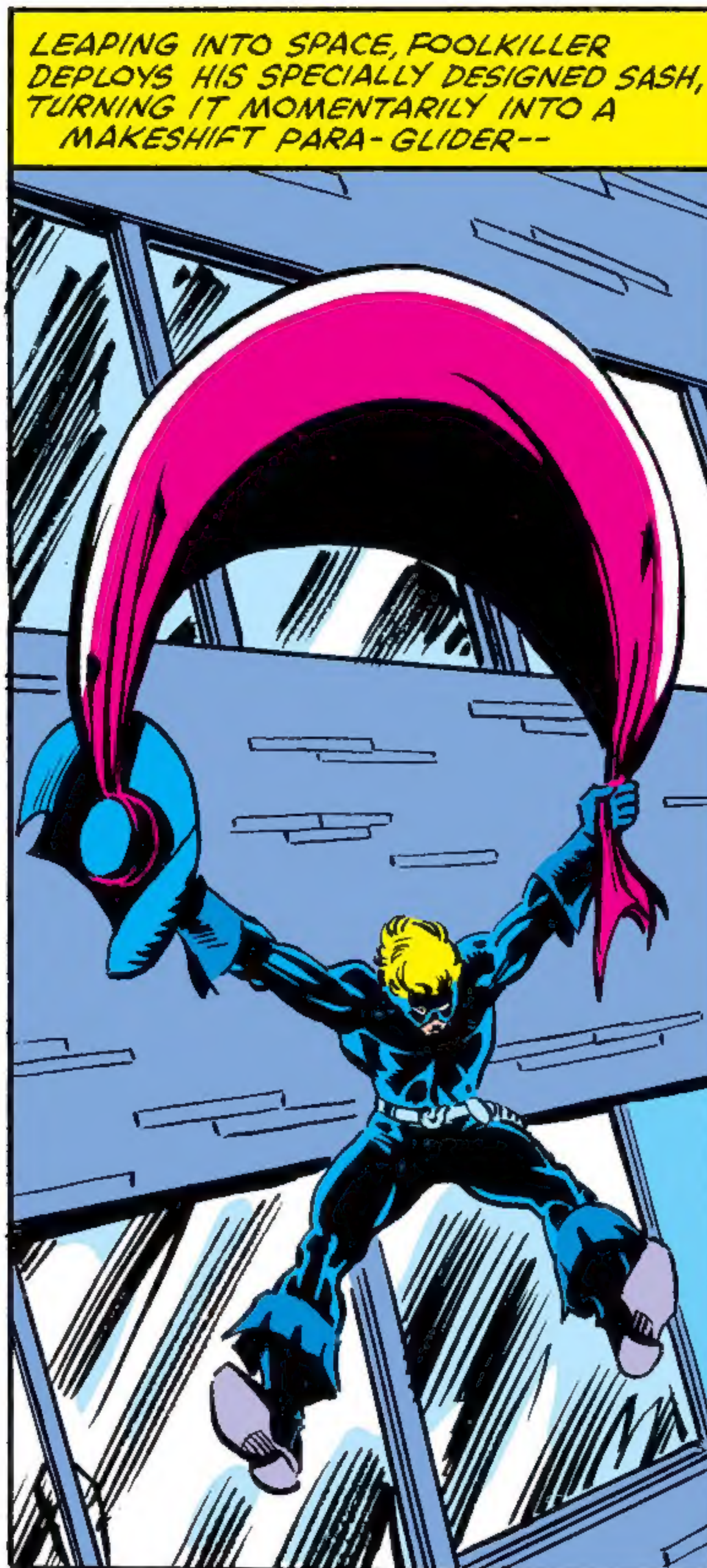
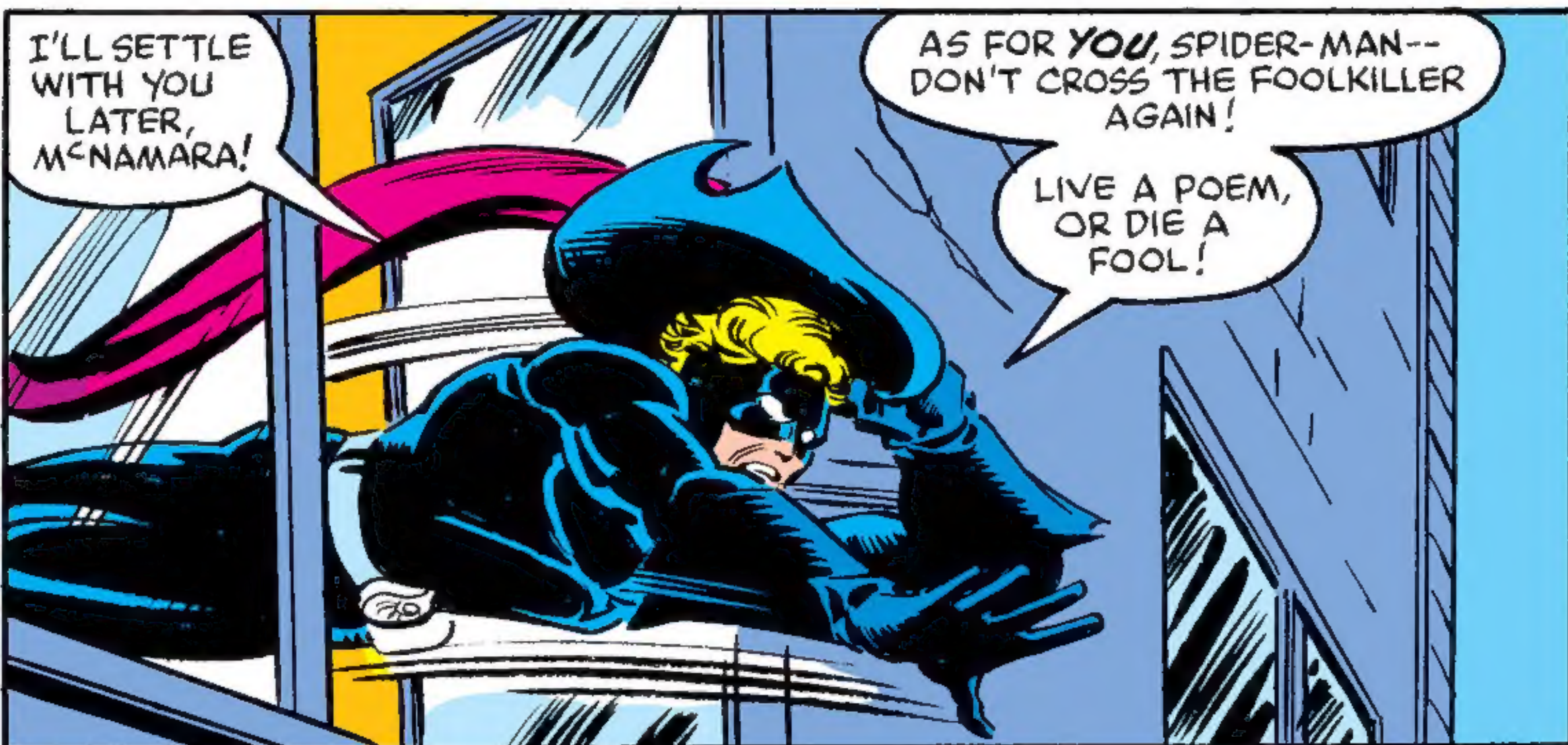
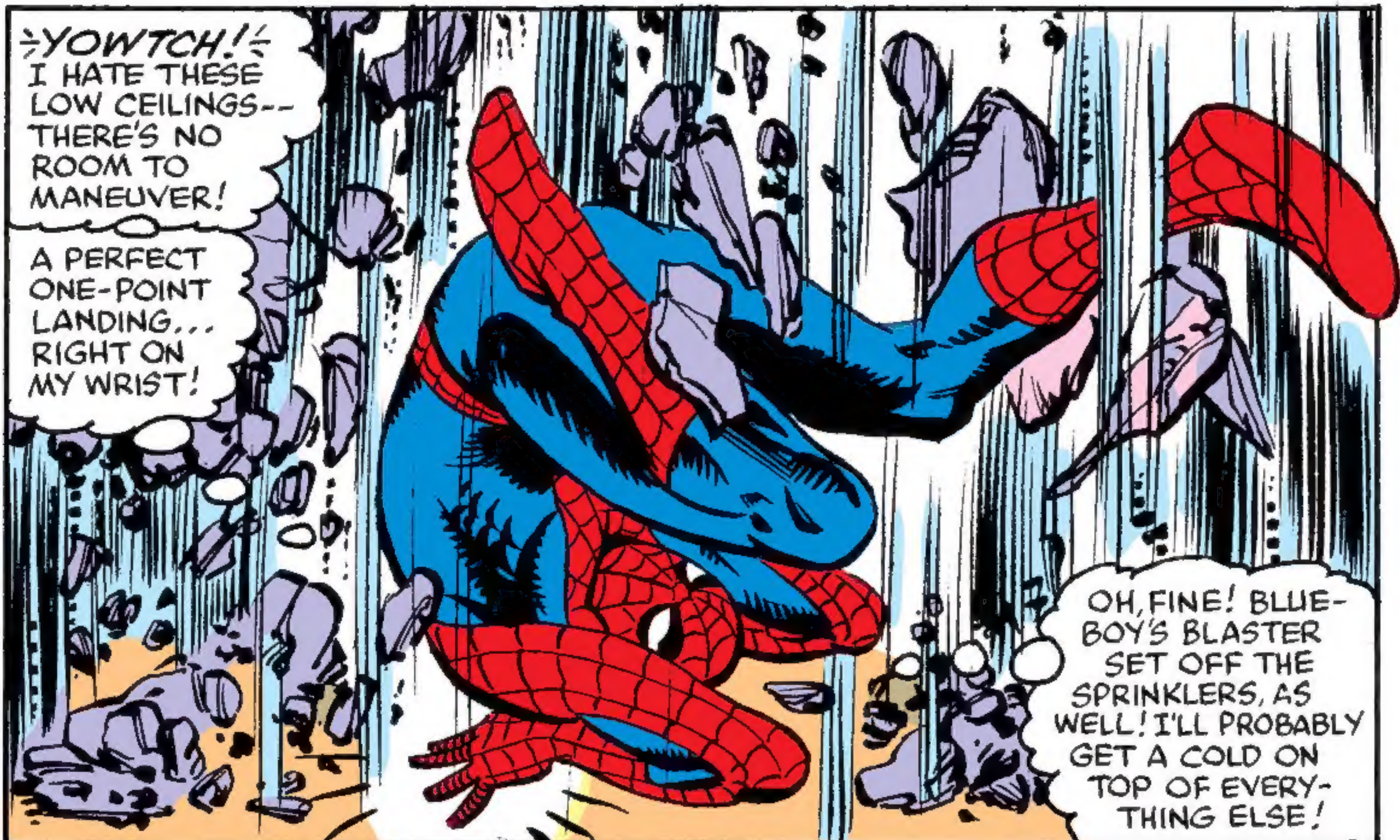
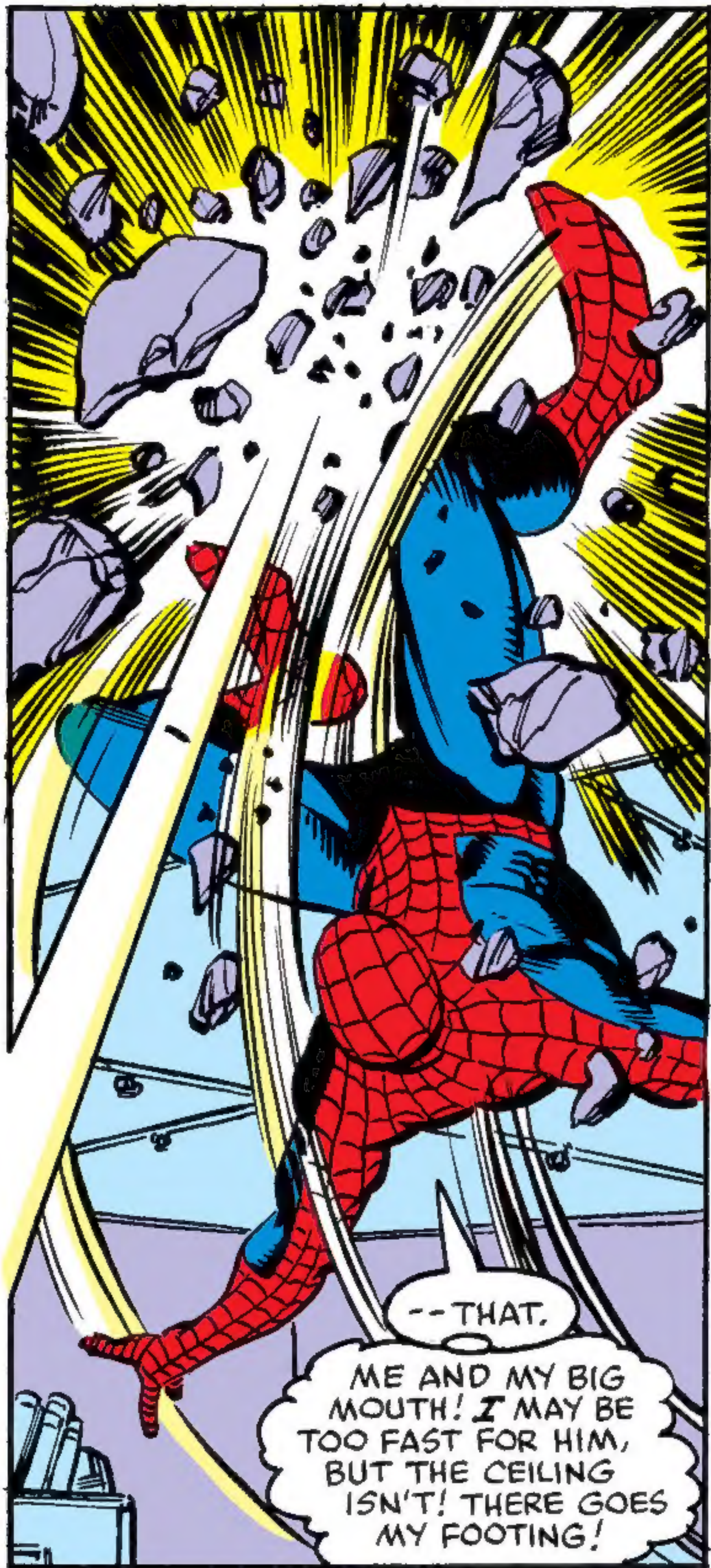


I HATE THIS BLASTED PAPERWORK! IF THE DEAN WASN'T BREATHING DOWN MY NECK, I'D LET IT WAIT ANOTHER MONTH!

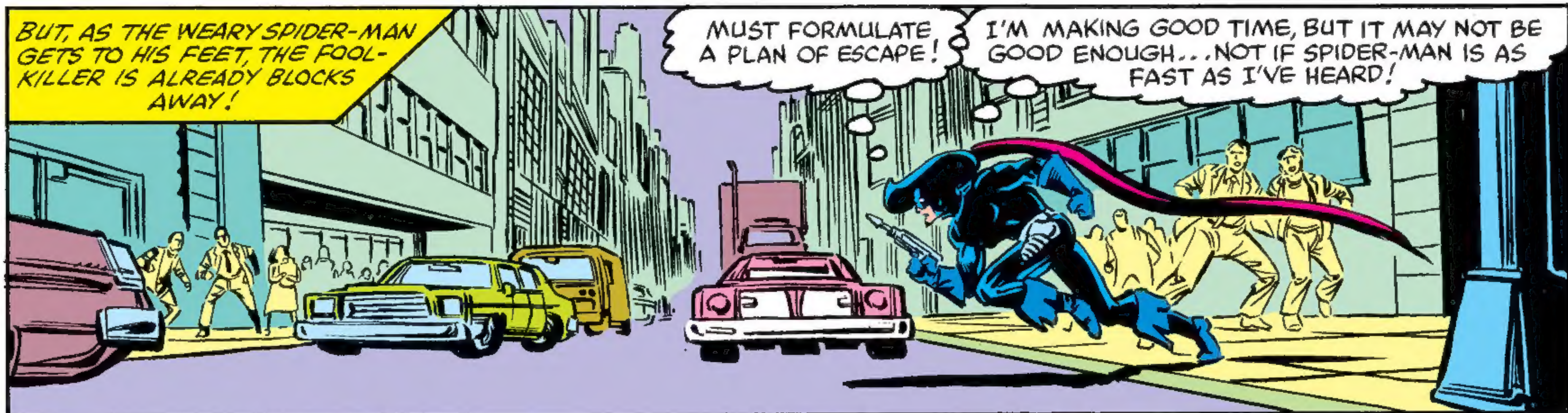












BUT, AS THE WEARY SPIDER-MAN GETS TO HIS FEET, THE FOOL-KILLER IS ALREADY BLOCKS AWAY!

MUST FORMULATE A PLAN OF ESCAPE!

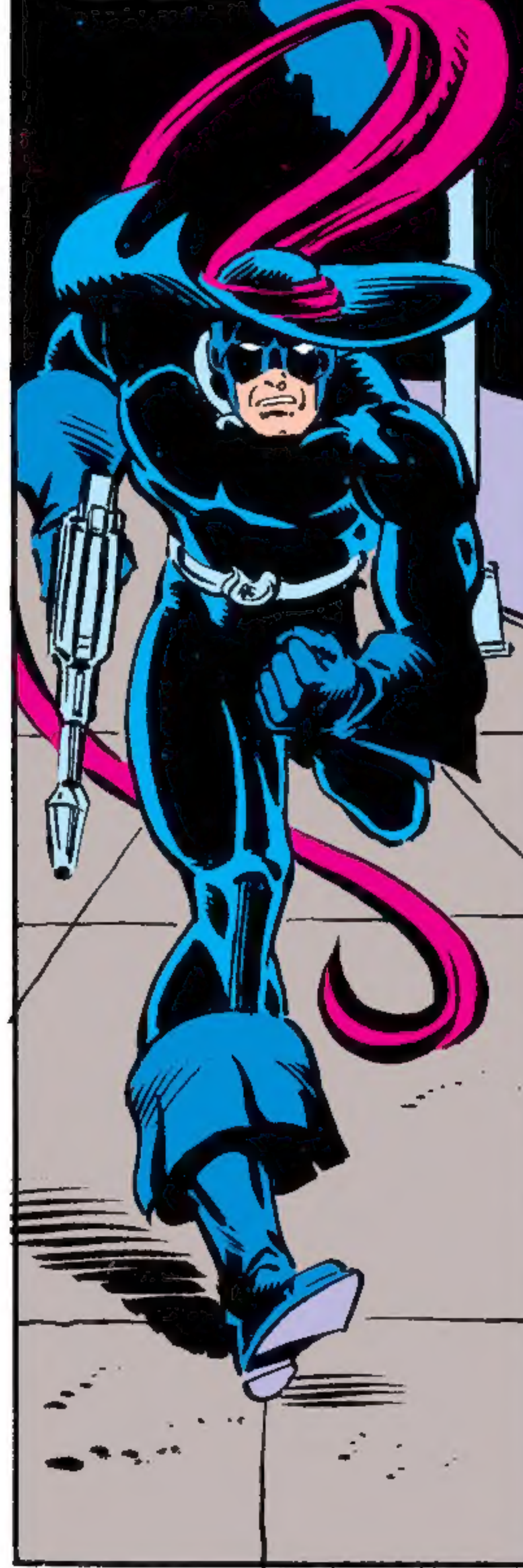
I'M MAKING GOOD TIME, BUT IT MAY NOT BE GOOD ENOUGH...NOT IF SPIDER-MAN IS AS FAST AS I'VE HEARD!

AND, INDEED, HE IS!

WELL, THAT'S ACCOMMODATING OF THE FOOLKILLER! HE'S RUNNING RIGHT UP THE AVENUE IN PLAIN SIGHT! WHAT A JERK!



I'LL EVEN HAVE TIME TO SET UP MY AUTOMATIC CAMERA FOR SOME LONG-DISTANCE SHOTS BEFORE I...



!!...DROP IN ON HIM!!

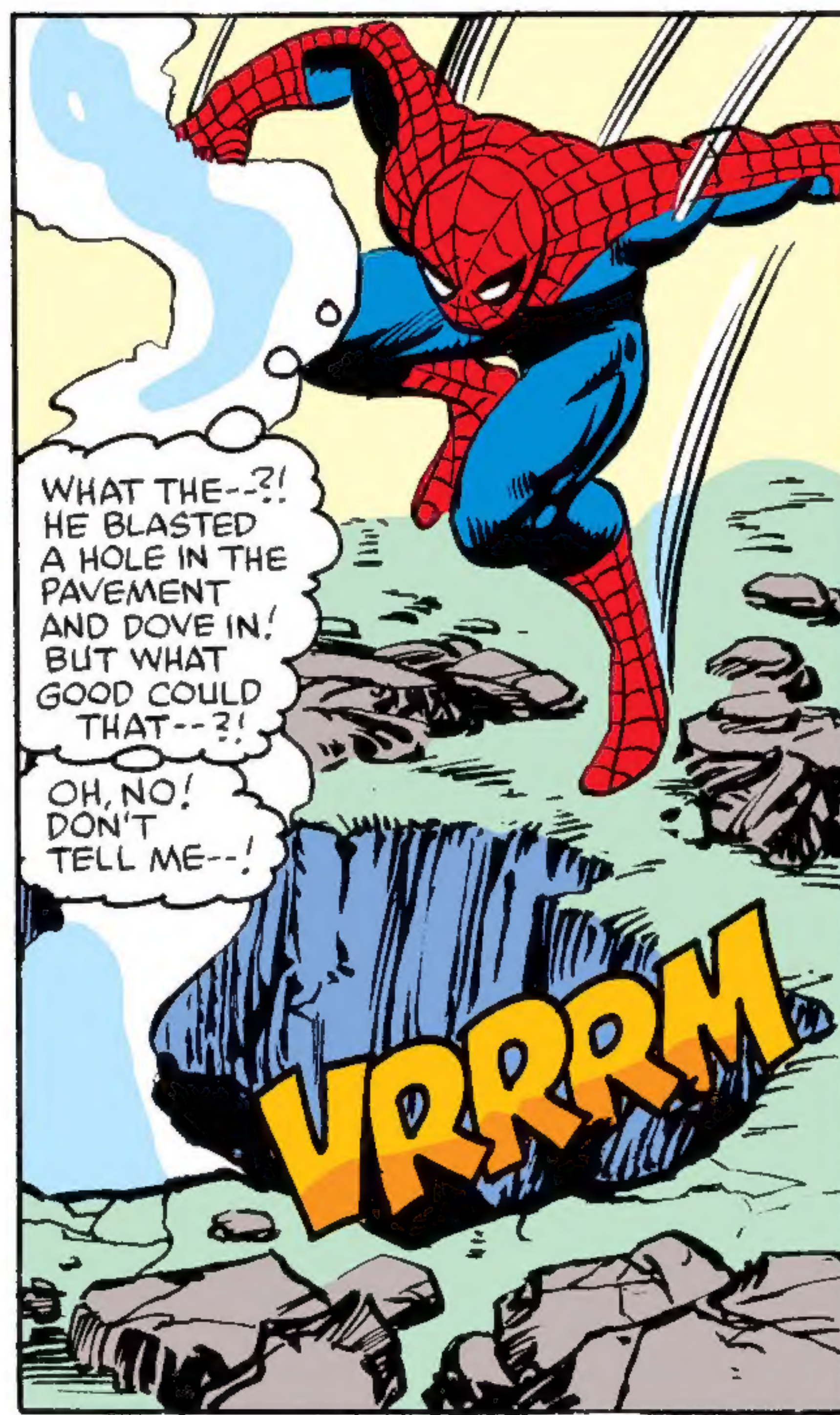
HEADS UP, F.K.! I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND A LITTLE COMPANY!



NOT AT ALL, SIR!

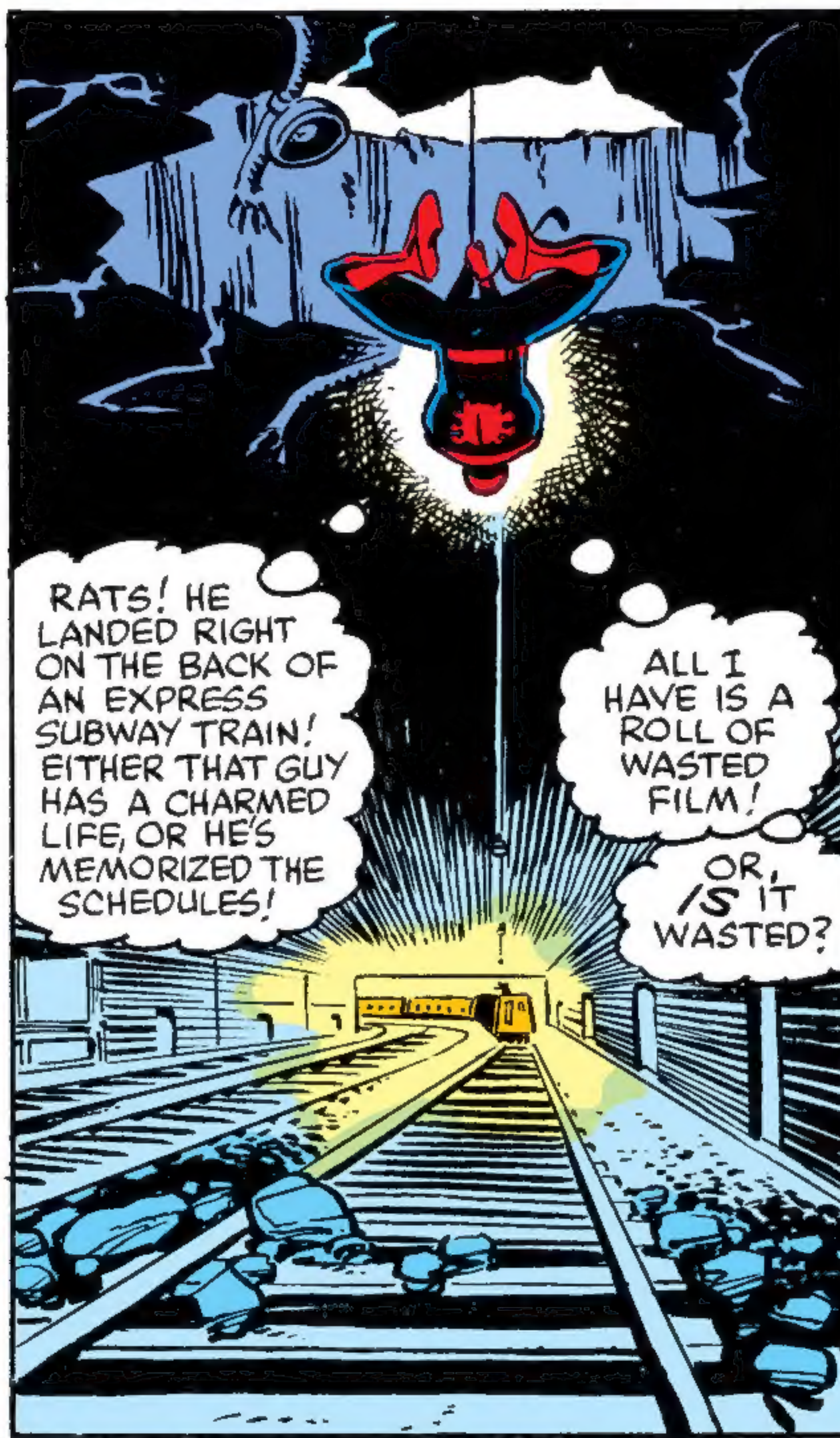


BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP YOURSELF AMUSED!



WHAT THE--?! HE BLASTED A HOLE IN THE PAVEMENT AND DOVE IN! BUT WHAT GOOD COULD THAT--?!

OH, NO! DON'T TELL ME--!



RATS! HE LANDED RIGHT ON THE BACK OF AN EXPRESS SUBWAY TRAIN! EITHER THAT GUY HAS A CHARMED LIFE, OR HE'S MEMORIZED THE SCHEDULES!

ALL I HAVE IS A ROLL OF WASTED FILM!

OR, /S IT WASTED?



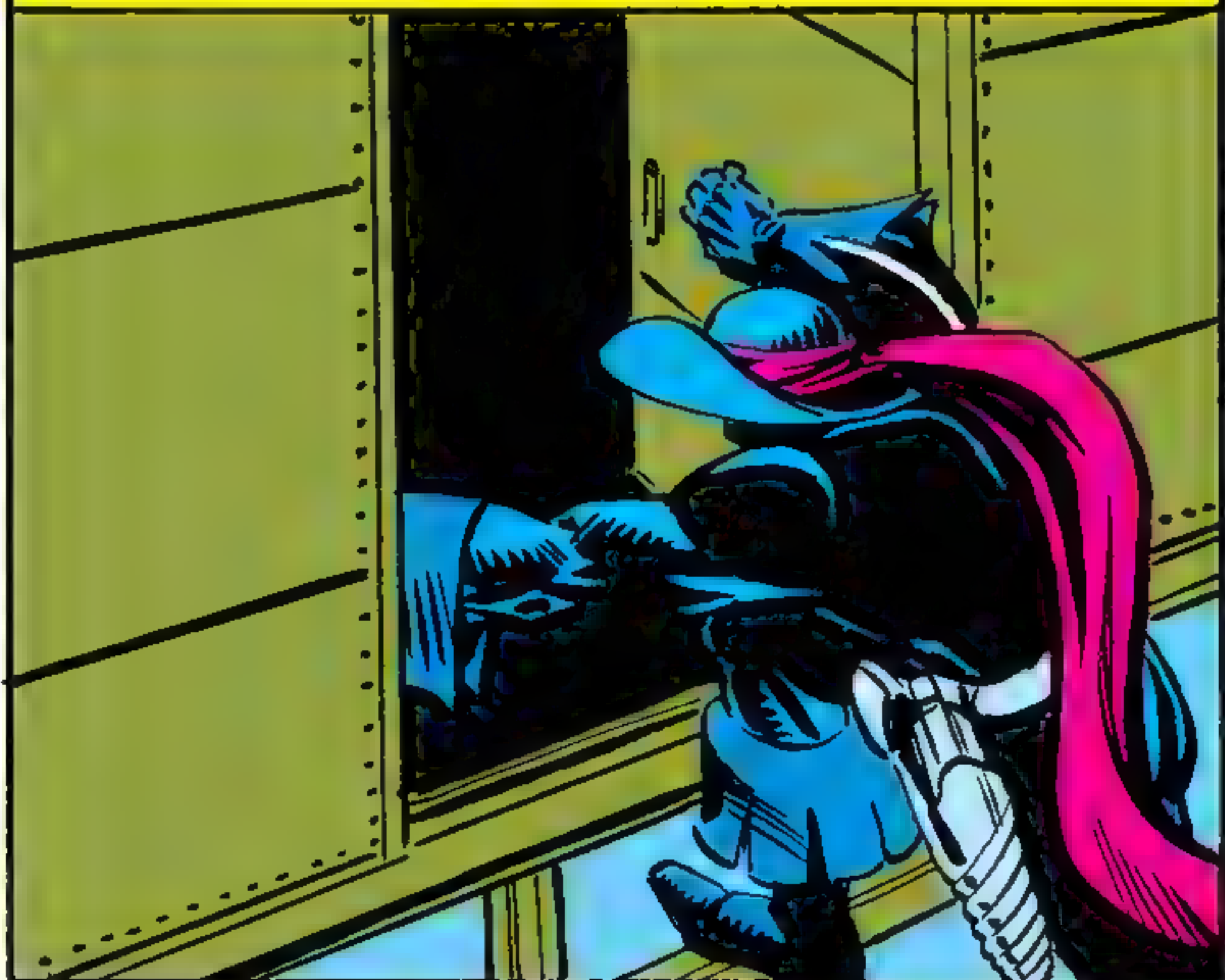
SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, AT A LONG-TERM PARKING LOT ON THE CITY'S WEST SIDE--



-- A DARK FIGURE EMERGES FROM THE SHADOWS OF AN ADJACENT ALLEYWAY--



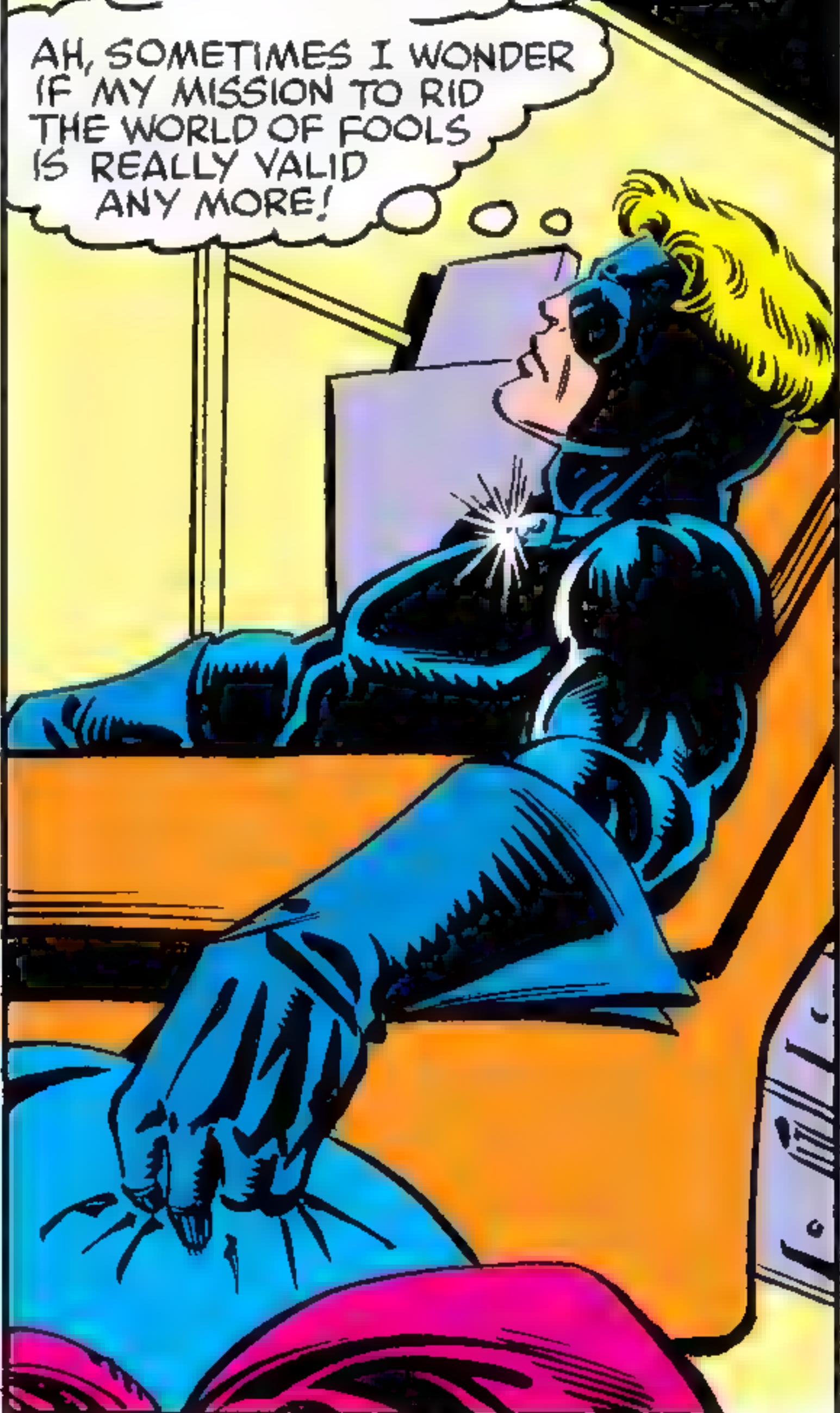
--AND SILENTLY SLIPS BETWEEN THE PARKED CARS, MAKING HIS WAY TO THE SIDE DOOR OF AN ORDINARY-LOOKING SEMI-TRAILER TRUCK.



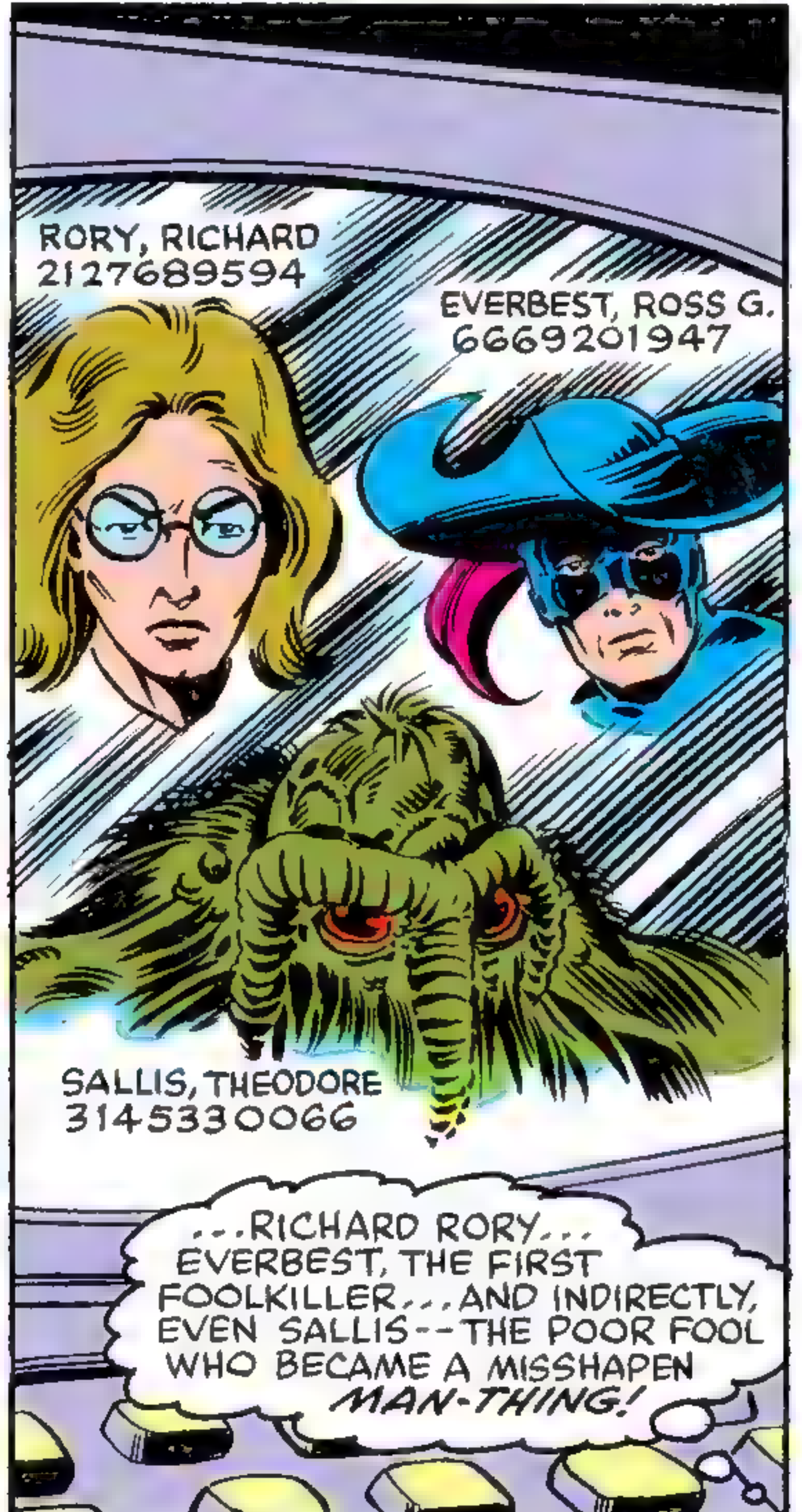
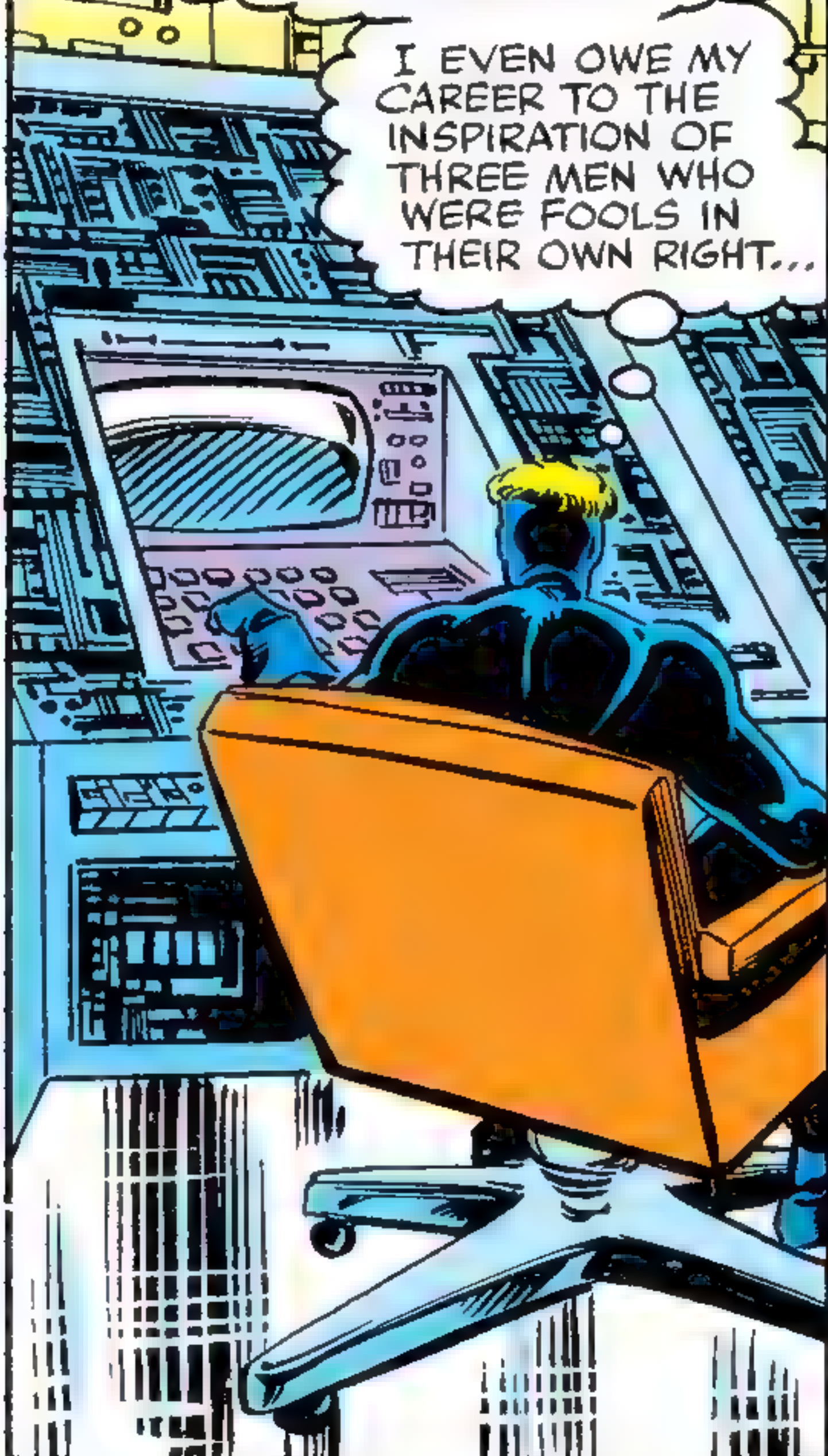
BUT THE INTERIOR OF THE TRAILER RIG IS ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY!



TIME TO "UNTHREAD THE RUDE EYE OF REBELLION, AND WELCOME HOME DISCARDED FAITH," AS THE BARD WOULD PUT IT.



AFTER ALL, I *DO* UTILIZE THESE COMPUTER SYSTEMS WHICH WERE CHIEFLY DESIGNED BY FOOLS... FOOLS WITHOUT A BIT OF POETRY IN THEIR SOULS!





WERE IT NOT FOR THE MAN-THING SAVING RORY FROM MY PREDECESSOR,\* I MIGHT NEVER HAVE BECOME THE FOOLKILLER!

\*MAN-THING VOL. #1, #4

HOW IRONIC THAT RICHARD'S SALVATION FROM ONE FOOLKILLER SHOULD ENABLE HIM TO INSPIRE ANOTHER! NO, IT'S MORE THAN IRONIC... IT'S *POETIC*!

THE ONLY THING REALLY WRONG WITH THE FIRST FOOLKILLER'S CRUSADE WAS HIS CONFUSED VIEW OF MORALITY THAT EQUATED SINNERS WITH FOOLS!

HIS ERRONEOUS IDEAS MADE HIM A FOOL HIMSELF! BUT I SAW THE RIGHTNESS OF HIS CAUSE... AND I KNEW THE TRUE DEFINITION OF A FOOL!

FOOL... ONE TOTALLY BEREFIT OF A POETIC NATURE!

"IT WOULD NEVER HAVE OCCURRED TO ME TO DECLARE WAR ON FOOLS, HAD I NOT MET RICHARD RORY IN PRISON! LIKE MYSELF, HE HAD BEEN UNJUSTLY JAILED!

"I HATED THAT PLACE! I TRIED TO TELL THEM THAT I WAS INNOCENT, BUT THE FOOLS WOULDN'T LISTEN! SOMEDAY, THEY WILL PAY FOR THAT!

"STILL, RICHARD ALMOST MADE THE PLACE BEARABLE WITH HIS STORIES OF THE MAN-THING... AND THE INSPIRING TALE OF THE FOOLKILLER!

"AH, THE FOOLKILLER!

"FROM THE MOMENT RICHARD TOLD ME ABOUT HIM, I KNEW THAT I MUST ASSUME HIS MISSION! THE IDEA BURNED AT ME... NIGHT AND DAY!

"UPON MY RELEASE, I LIBERATED THE FOOLKILLER'S EQUIPMENT AND THREW MYSELF INTO A PERIOD OF INTENSIVE TRAINING!

"I LATER TRACKED RICHARD TO NEW YORK, TO THANK HIM FOR THE INSPIRATION HE'D GIVEN ME,

"HERE, I FOUND AN ABUNDANCE OF FOOLS! WITHIN HOURS OF MY ARRIVAL, I SAVED THE MYSTERY MAN *OMEGA* FROM THE PATHETIC BLOCKBUSTER,\*

\*OMEGA #9!

"BUT SOON, I TURNED MY ATTENTIONS TO BIGGER GAME...

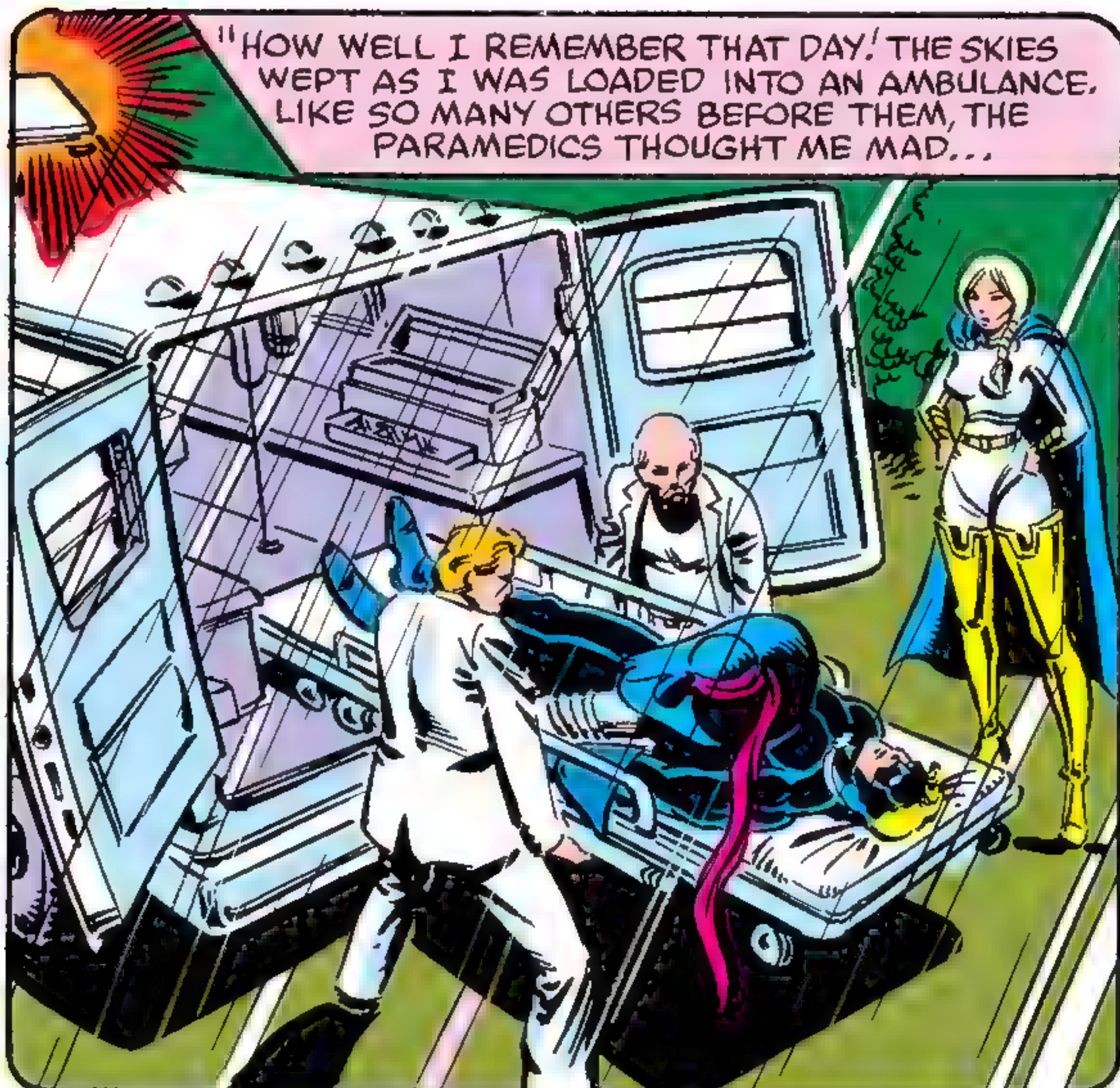
"...SUCH AS THE *HELLCAT*, AND HER FELLOW DEFENDERS,

"TO MY DISMAY, I FOUND THAT I HAD MISJUDGED THE DEFENDERS. THEY WERE NOT QUITE AS FOOLISH AS I HAD THOUGHT!

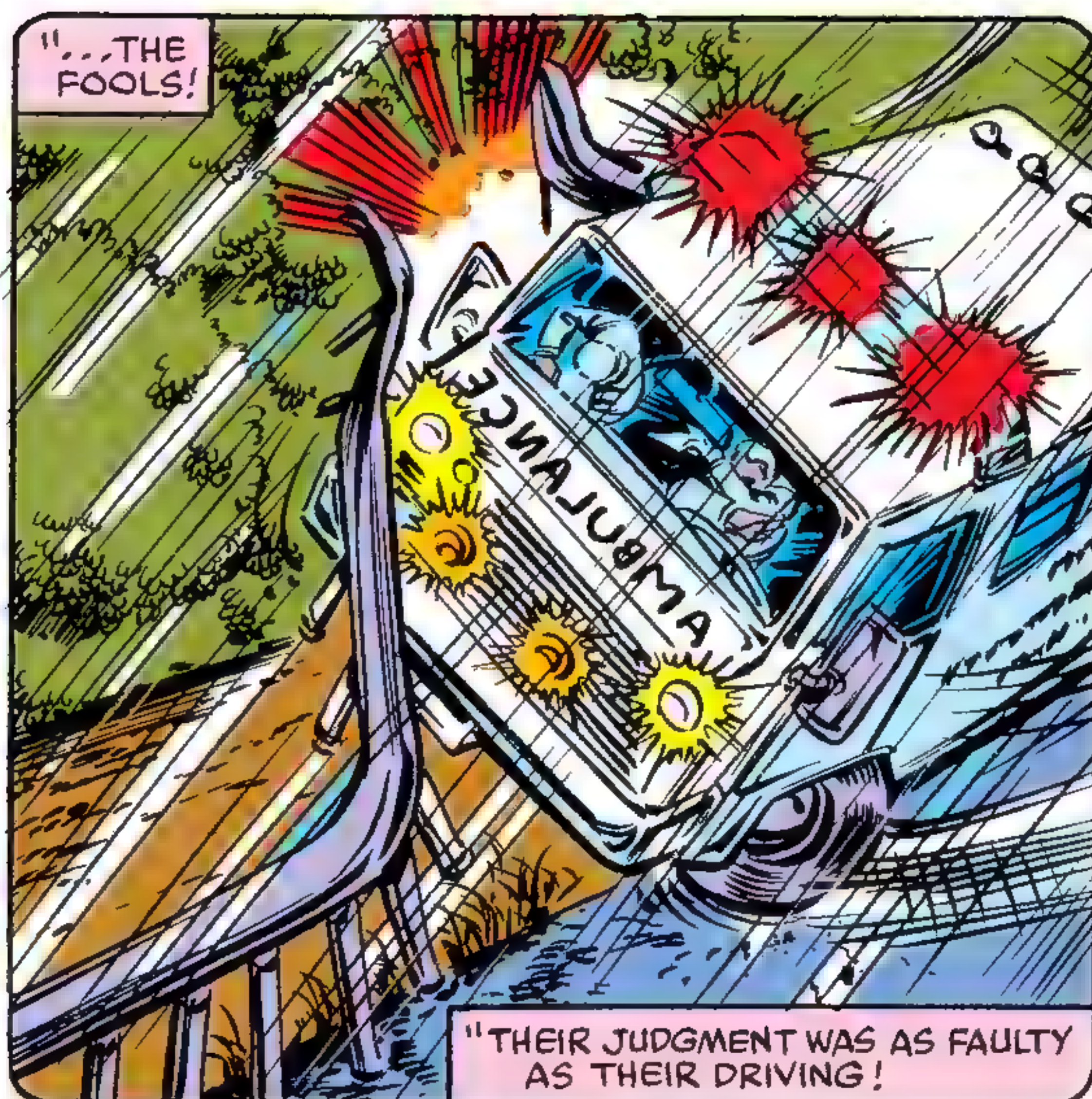
"AND MY ESTIMATES OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS-- PARTICULARLY THAT OF THE *VALKYRIE*-- WERE FAR TOO LOW!\*

\*DEFENDERS #75!



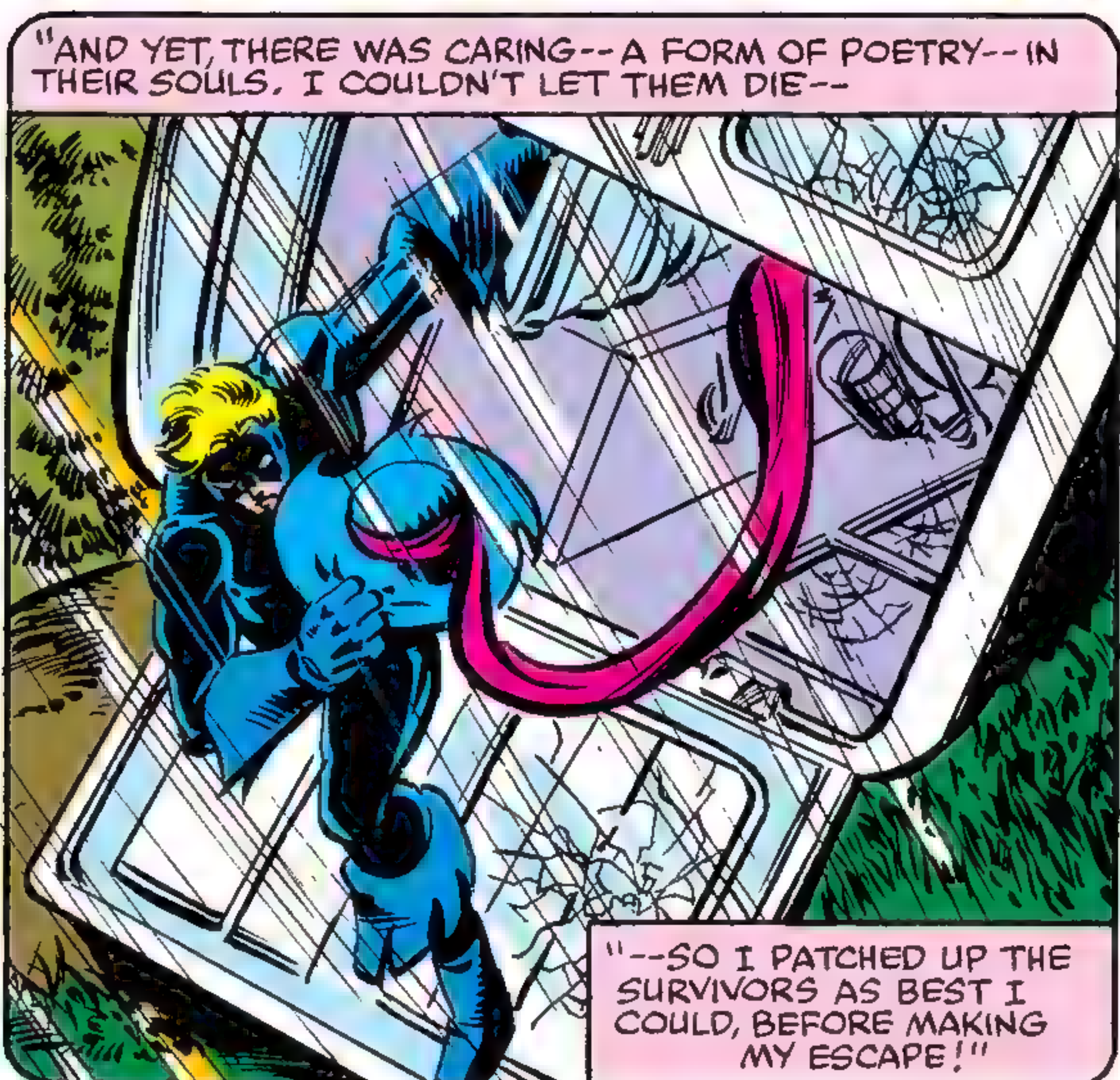


"HOW WELL I REMEMBER THAT DAY! THE SKIES WEPT AS I WAS LOADED INTO AN AMBULANCE, LIKE SO MANY OTHERS BEFORE THEM, THE PARAMEDICS THOUGHT ME MAD..."



"...THE FOOLS!"

"THEIR JUDGMENT WAS AS FAULTY AS THEIR DRIVING!"



"AND YET, THERE WAS CARING--A FORM OF POETRY--IN THEIR SOULS. I COULDN'T LET THEM DIE--"

"--SO I PATCHED UP THE SURVIVORS AS BEST I COULD, BEFORE MAKING MY ESCAPE!"



BUT THE AUTHORITIES ACCUSED ME OF CAUSING THE WRECK IN THE FIRST PLACE!

FOOLS!

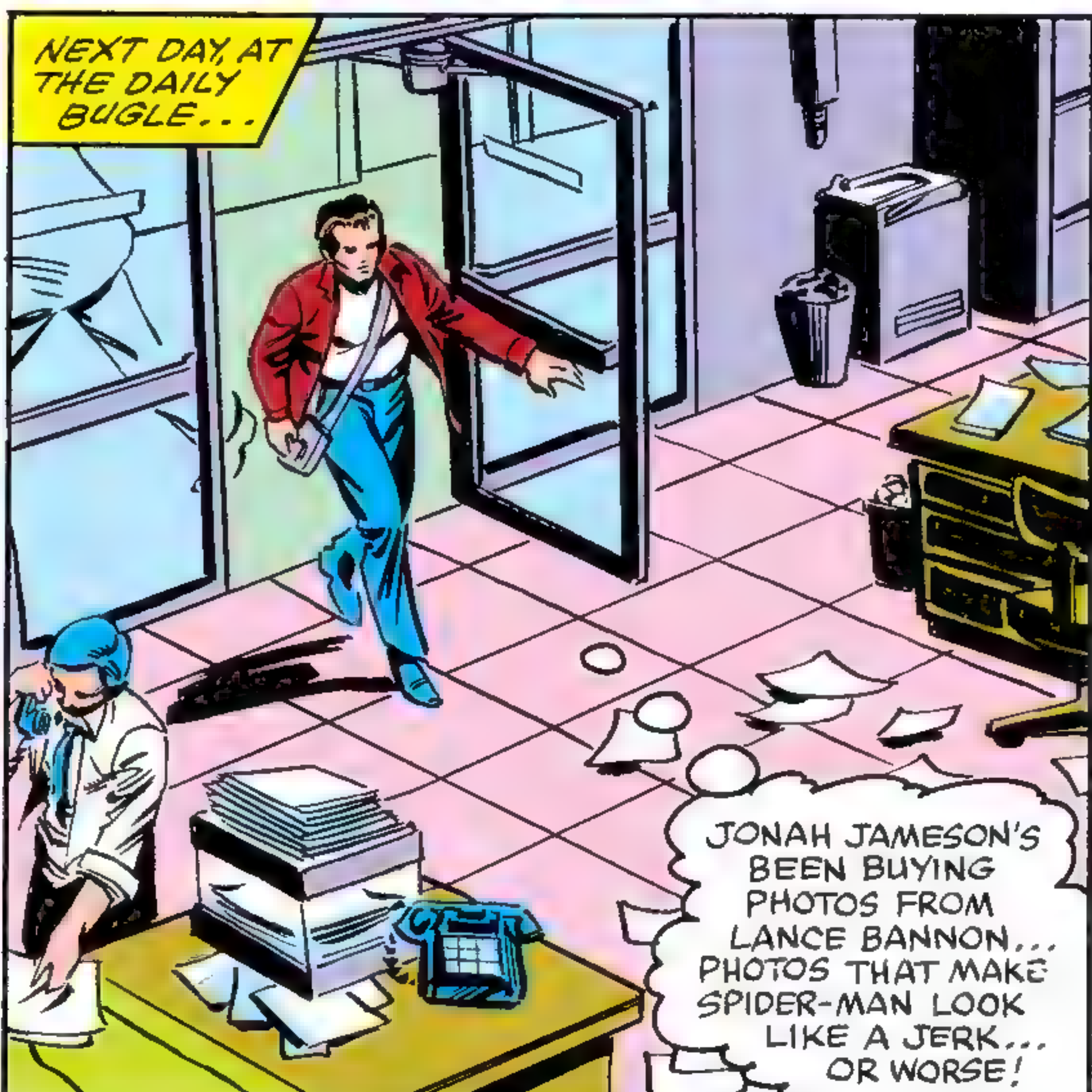
AT THAT POINT, I BEGAN TO DESPAIR! I REALIZED THAT I WOULD NEED A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POETIC NATURE BEFORE I COULD SLAY THE BIGGEST FOOLS!

I BEGAN A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE GREAT POETS, BUT STILL I FOUND FOOLS MUDDYING THE WATERS AROUND ME!



BUT NOW I HAVE THE ANSWER! JUST AS POETRY IS THE HIGHEST FORM OF SELF-EXPRESSION, SO MUST BE MY ABILITY TO PERCEIVE FOOLS.

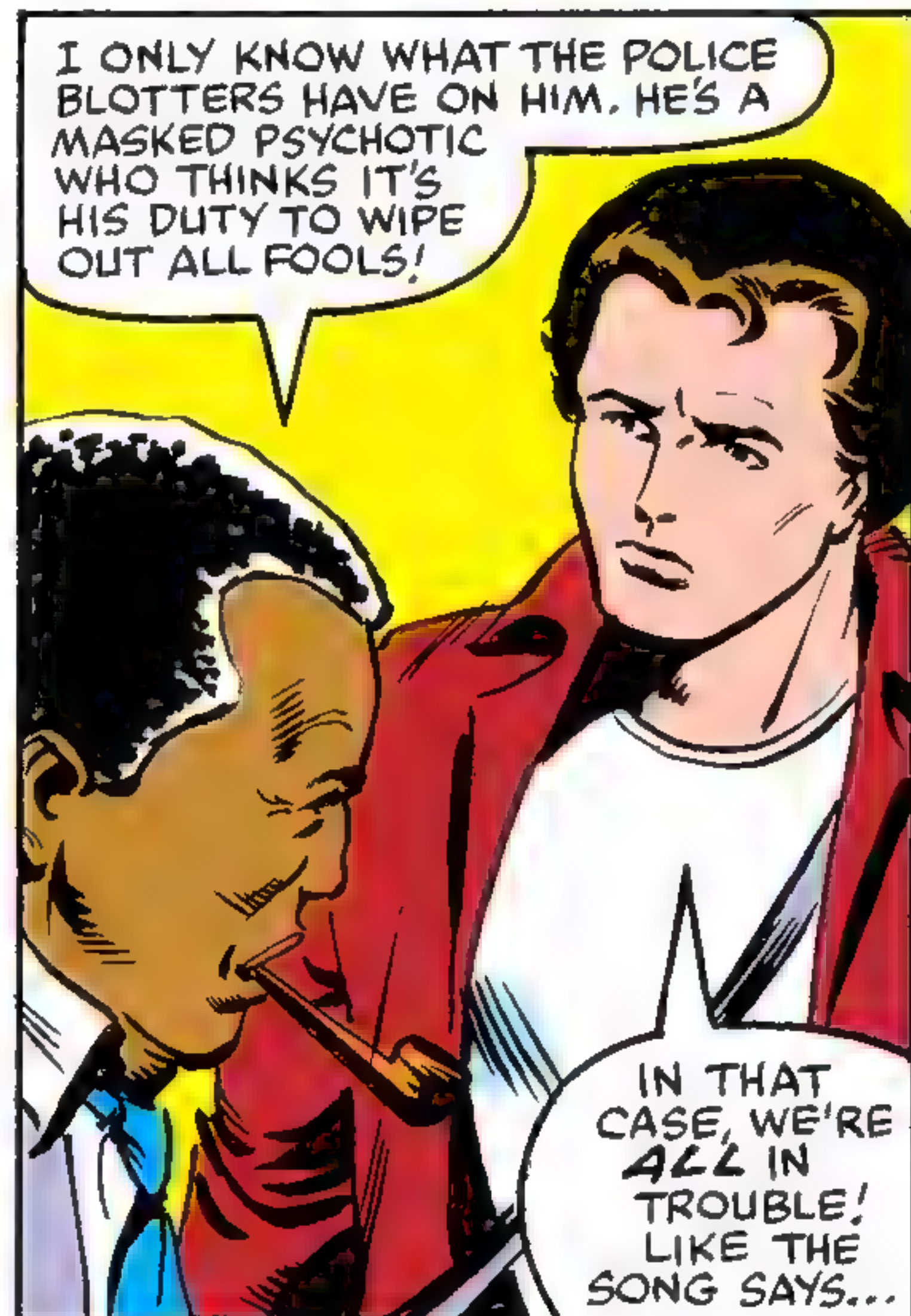
I NEED MERELY WAIT FOR THE FOOLS TO MEDDLE WITH MY LIFE! BY THEIR VERY NATURE, THEY WILL SEEK ME OUT, SO I CAN END THEIR USELESS LIVES! HA-HA! IT'S SO SIMPLE!



NEXT DAY, AT THE DAILY BUGLE...

JONAH JAMESON'S BEEN BUYING PHOTOS FROM LANCE BANNON... PHOTOS THAT MAKE SPIDER-MAN LOOK LIKE A JERK... OR WORSE!







SOON...

THE FOOLKILLER  
IS MORE DANGEROUS  
THAN I THOUGHT!  
AND I LET  
HIM GET  
AWAY!

I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING  
ABOUT THAT! THE LAST THING  
I NEED IS MORE GUILT ON  
MY SHOULDERS!

AND SO, FOR THE REST OF  
THE AFTERNOON, SPIDER-MAN  
COVERS THE ROOFTOPS OF NEW YORK  
CITY IN A WILD, UNINHIBITED DISPLAY  
OF HIS AMAZING SPEED, STRENGTH,  
AND AGILITY--

-- WITH A NET  
RESULT OF...

NOTHING! I'VE  
GOTTEN ONE  
HECK OF A  
WORKOUT,  
BUT THERE  
HASN'T BEEN  
A SIGN OF THE  
FOOLKILLER!

MAYBE HE ONLY COMES OUT AT  
NIGHT! BOY, NOW'S A GREAT TIME  
TO THINK OF THAT!

SPEAKING OF  
NIGHT, IT'S GETTING  
LATE--AND I STILL  
HAVE TO PREPARE  
FOR EVENING LAB!

STOPPING OFF AT HIS  
CHELSEA APARTMENT JUST  
LONG ENOUGH TO SCOOP UP  
HIS STREET CLOTHES, SPIDER-  
MAN HEADS ONCE AGAIN  
FOR THE E.S.U. CAMPUS--

-- WHERE...

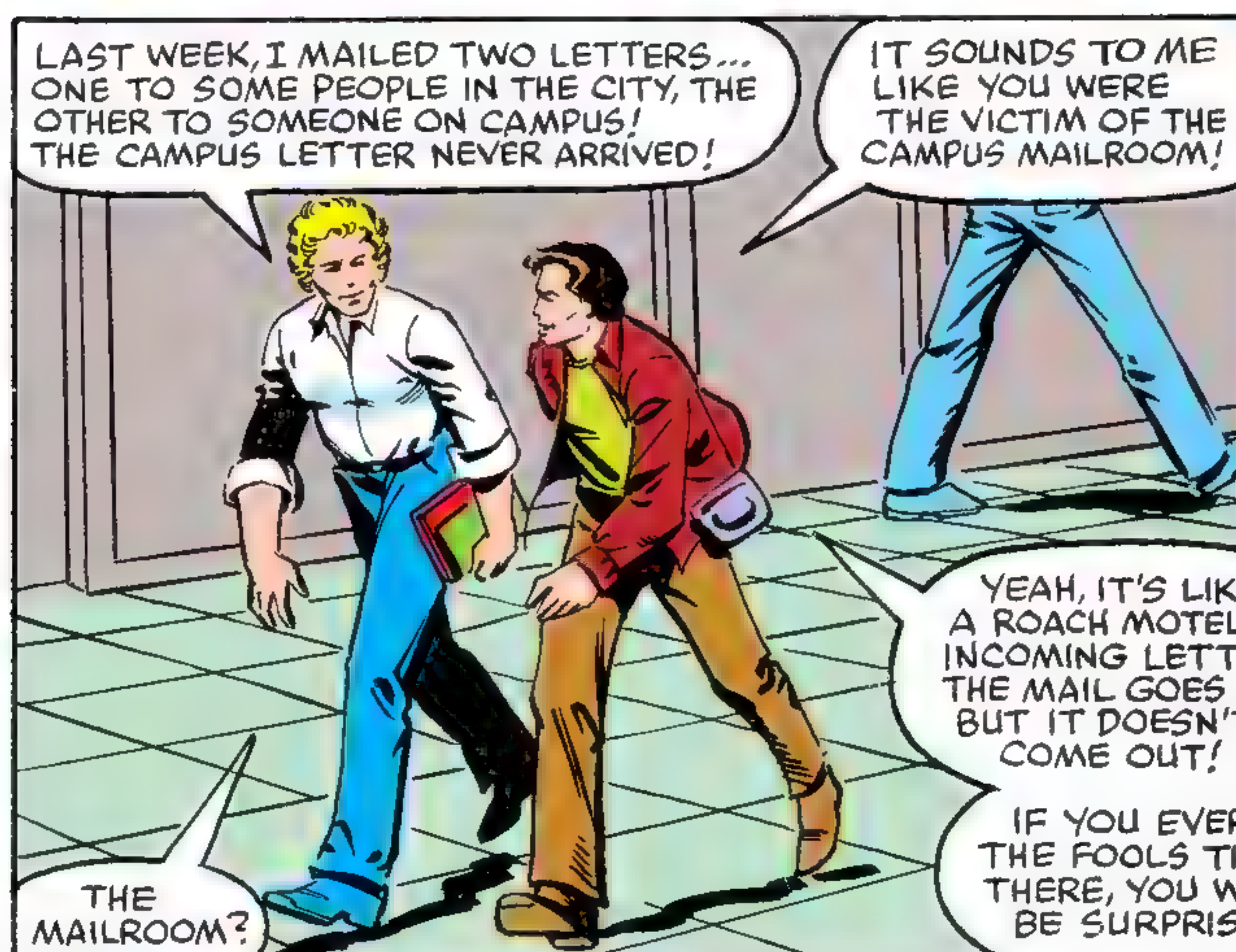
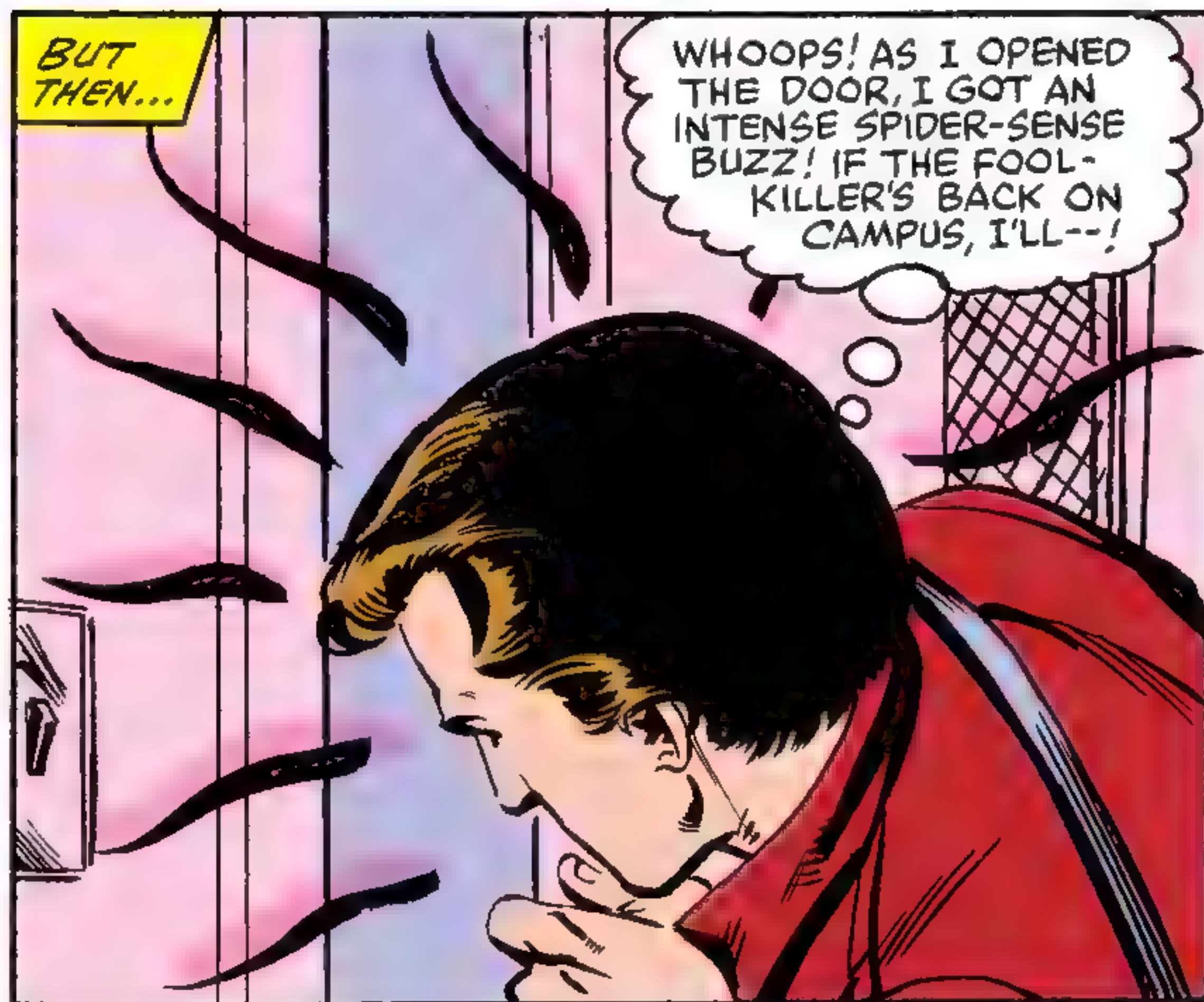
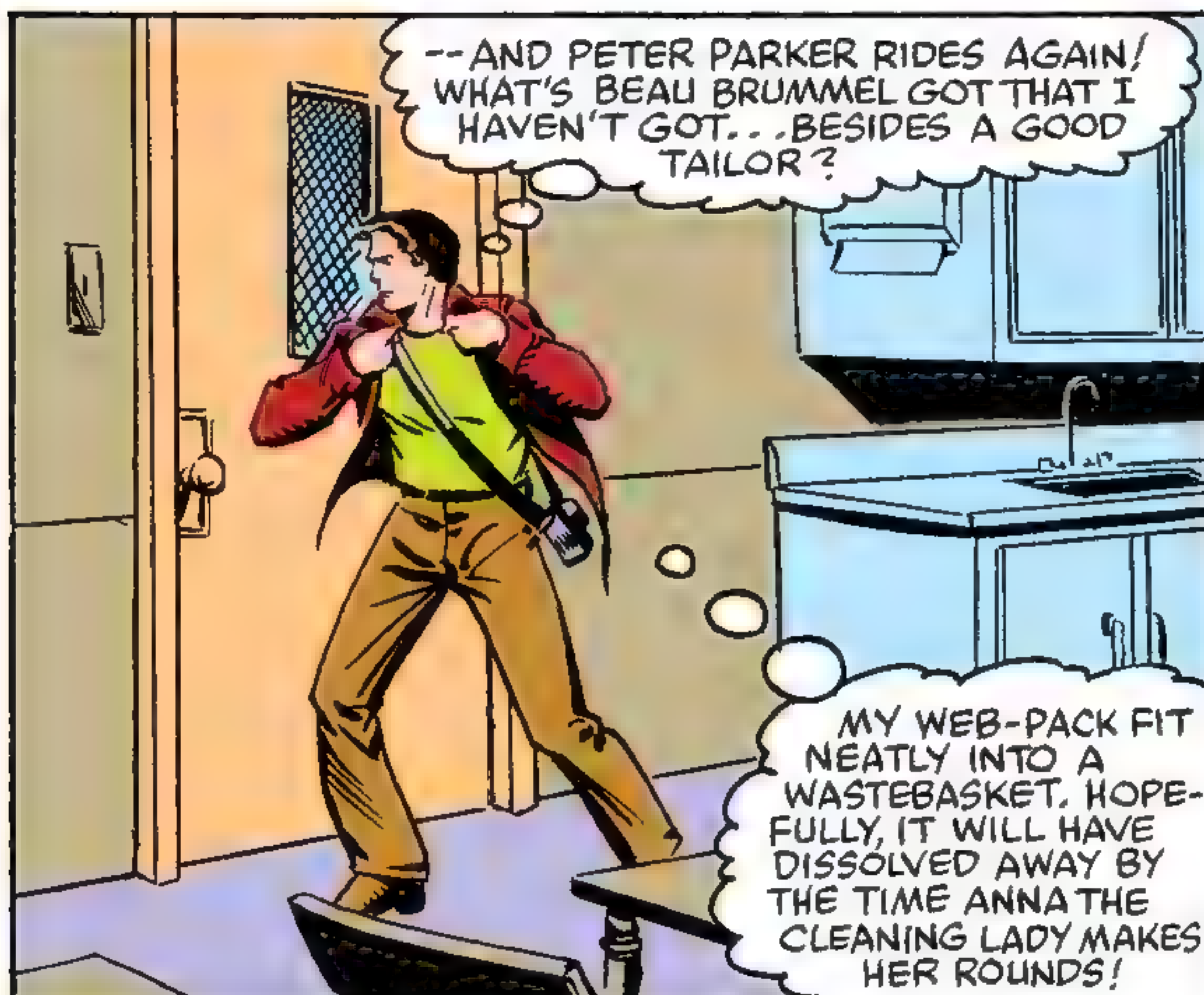
AH-HA! A  
DESERTED  
CLASSROOM!

JUST WHAT I  
NEED FOR ONE  
OF MY PATENTED  
QUICK-CHANGES!

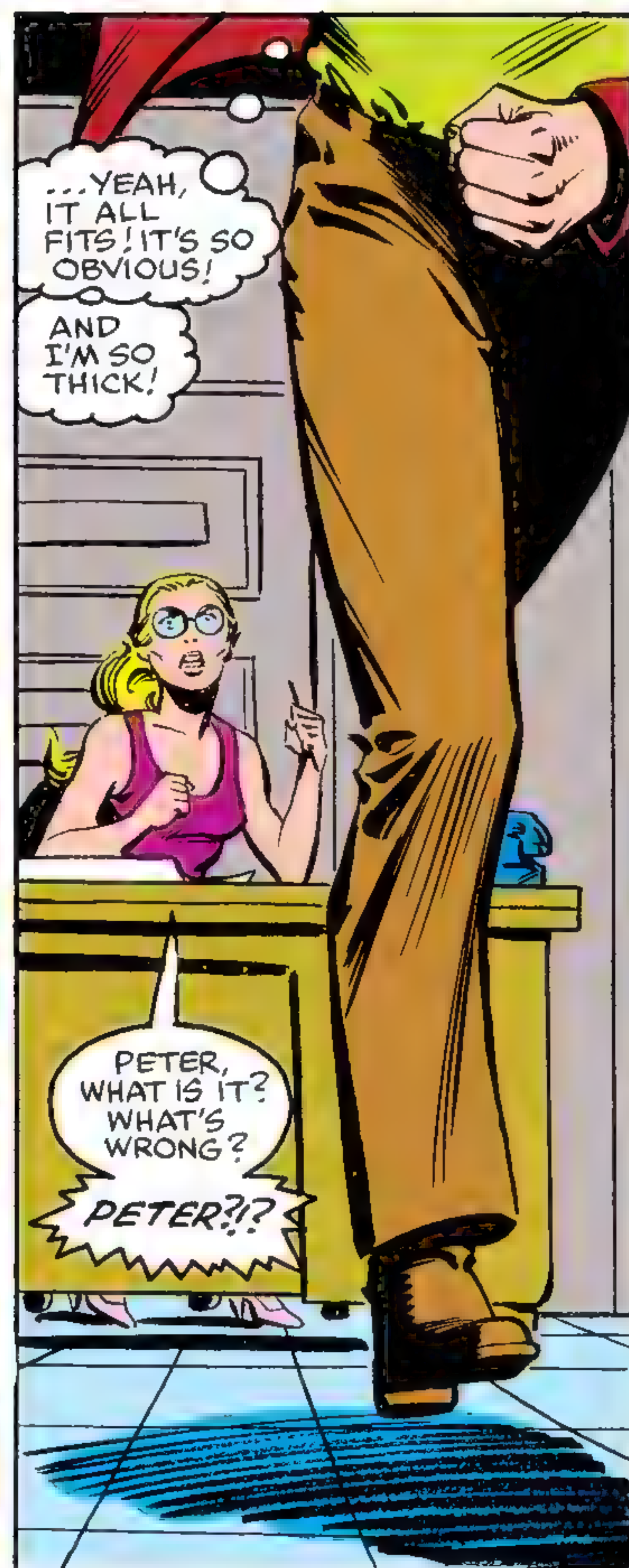
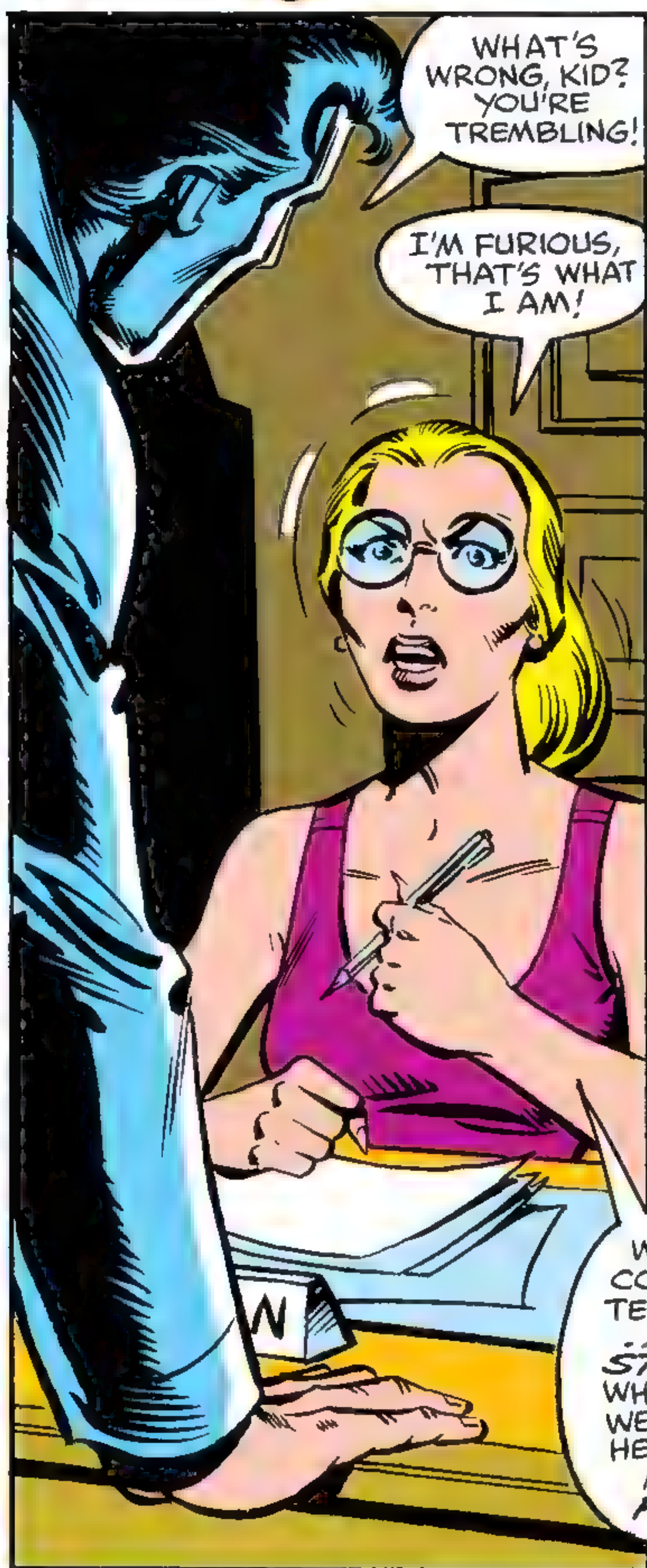
OKAY... MASK  
AND GLOVES ARE  
TUCKED INTO MY  
BELT. ALL I HAVE  
TO DO NOW IS  
SNAP MY  
COLLAPSIBLE  
WEB-SHOOTERS  
ONTO THE  
BELT--

--ADD  
THE  
LATEST  
IN PERMA-  
PRESS  
FASHIONS--

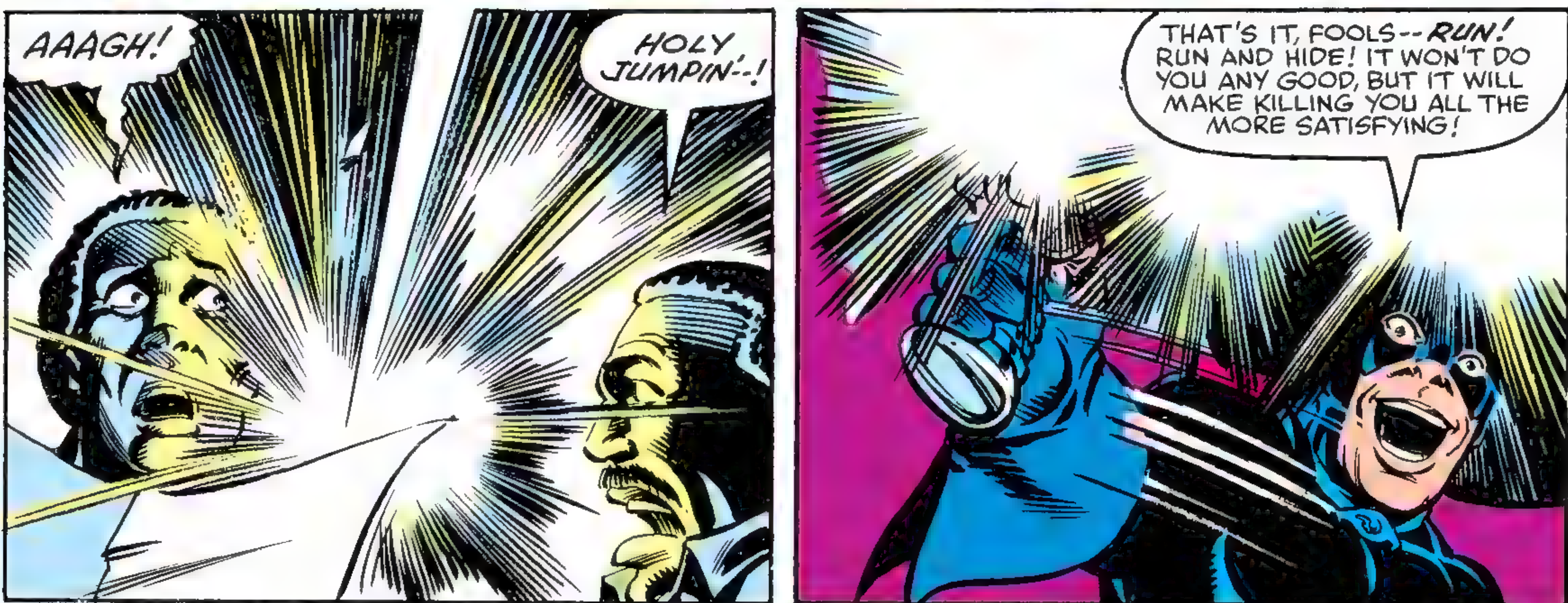
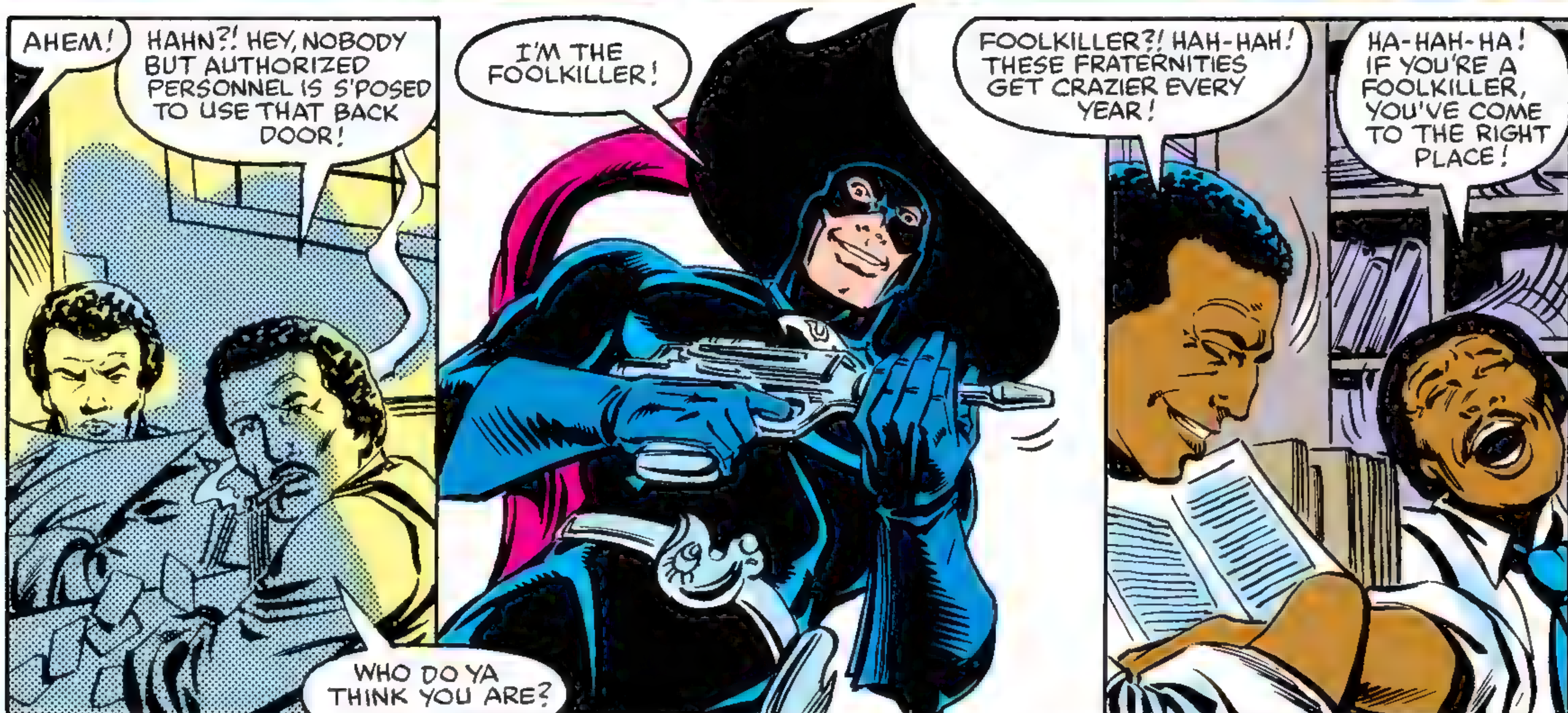
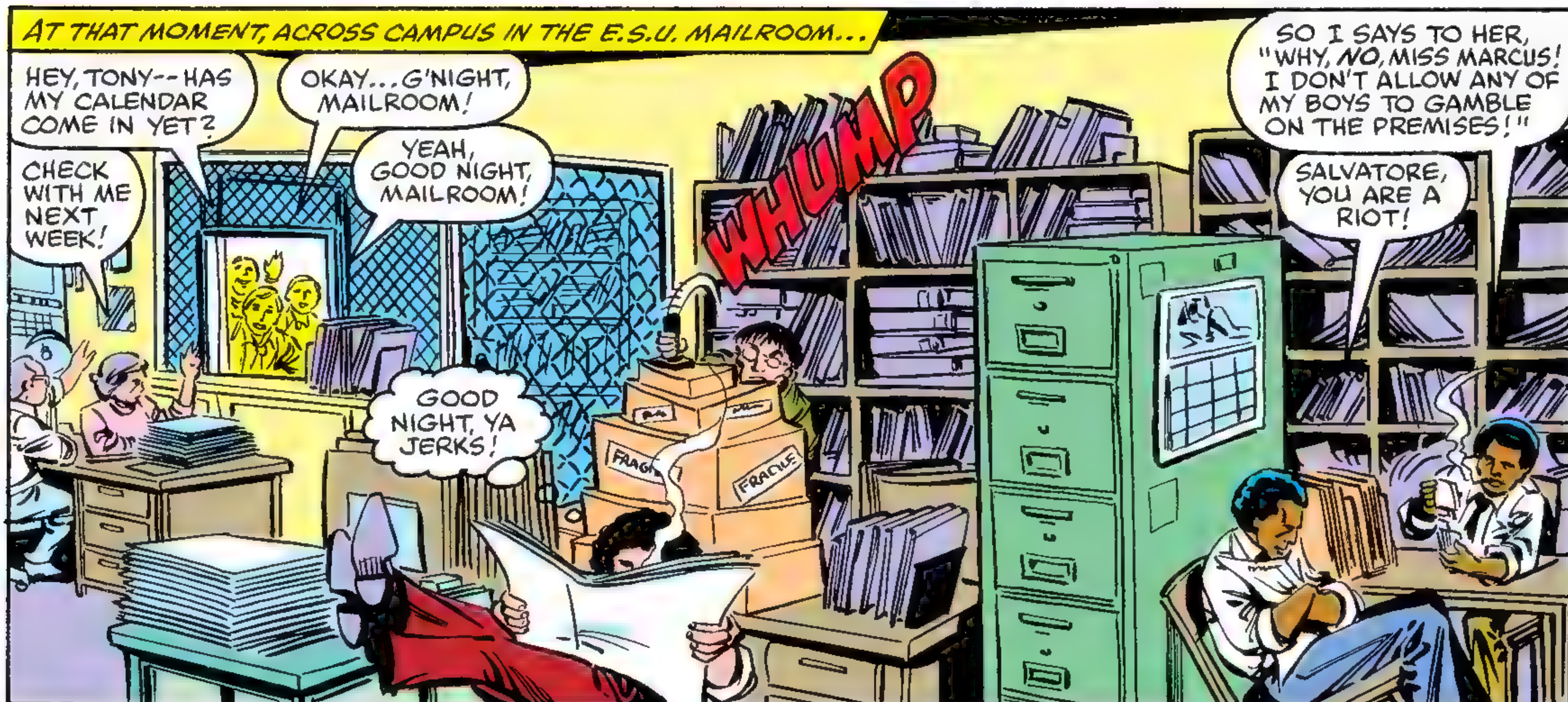




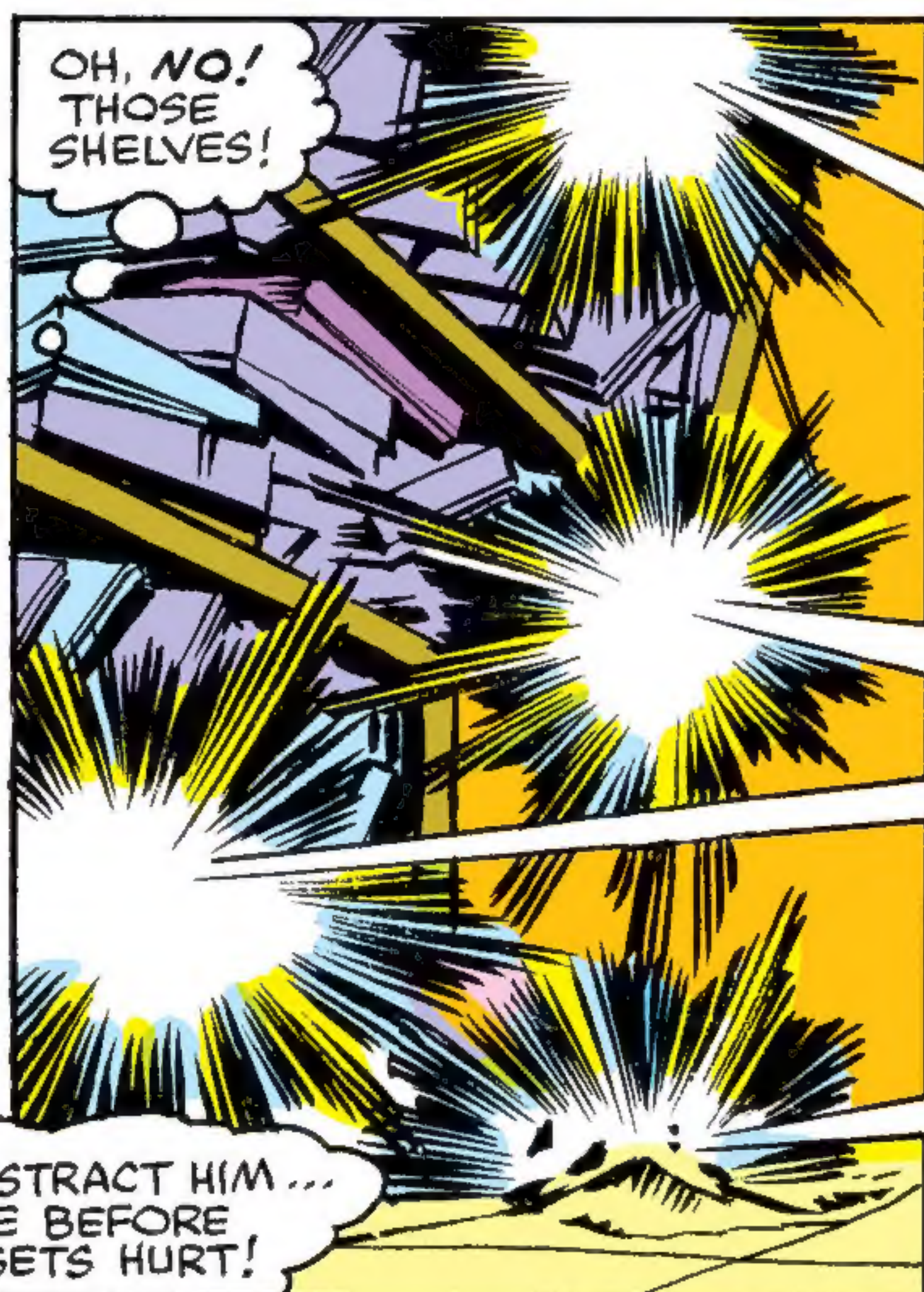
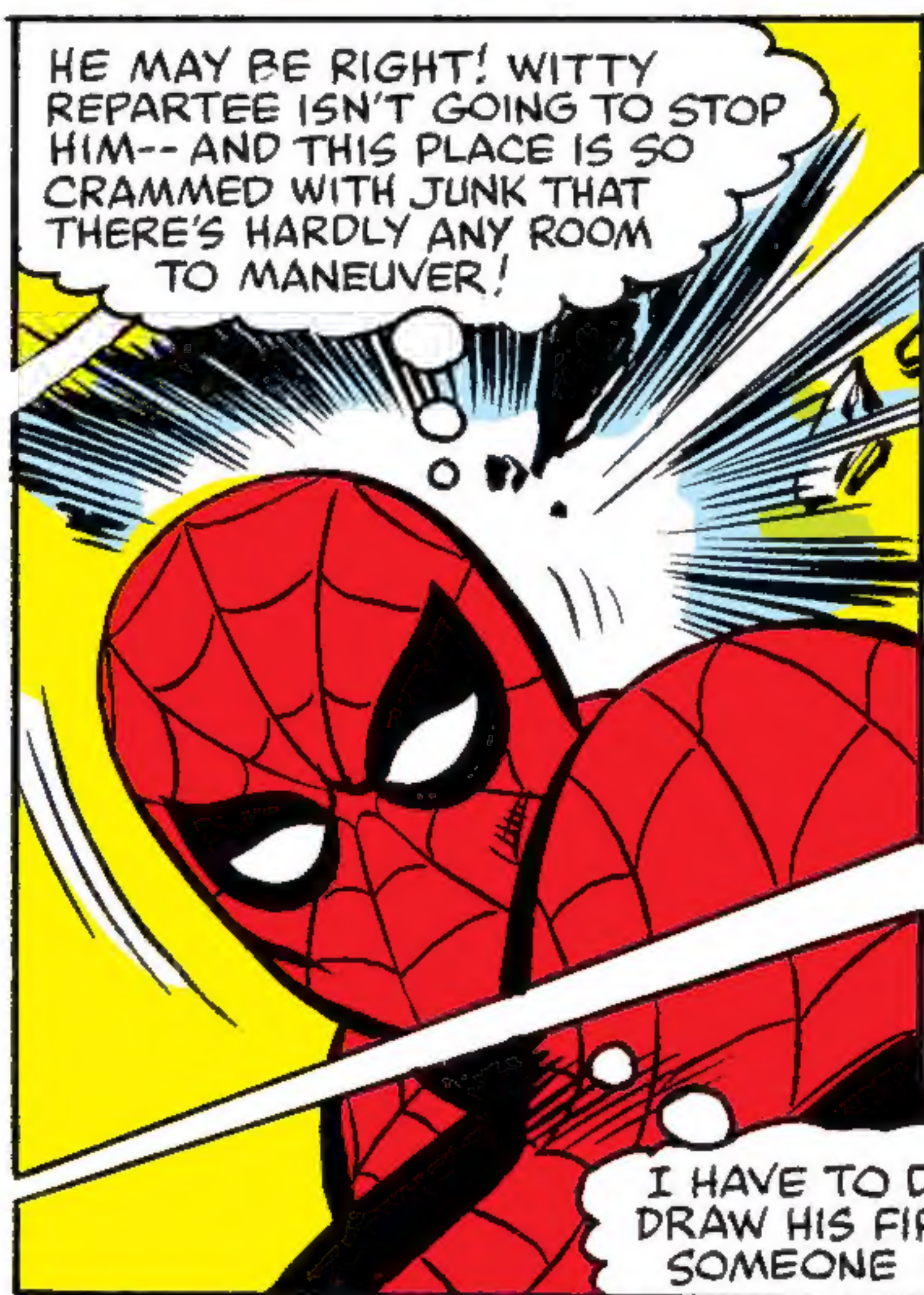
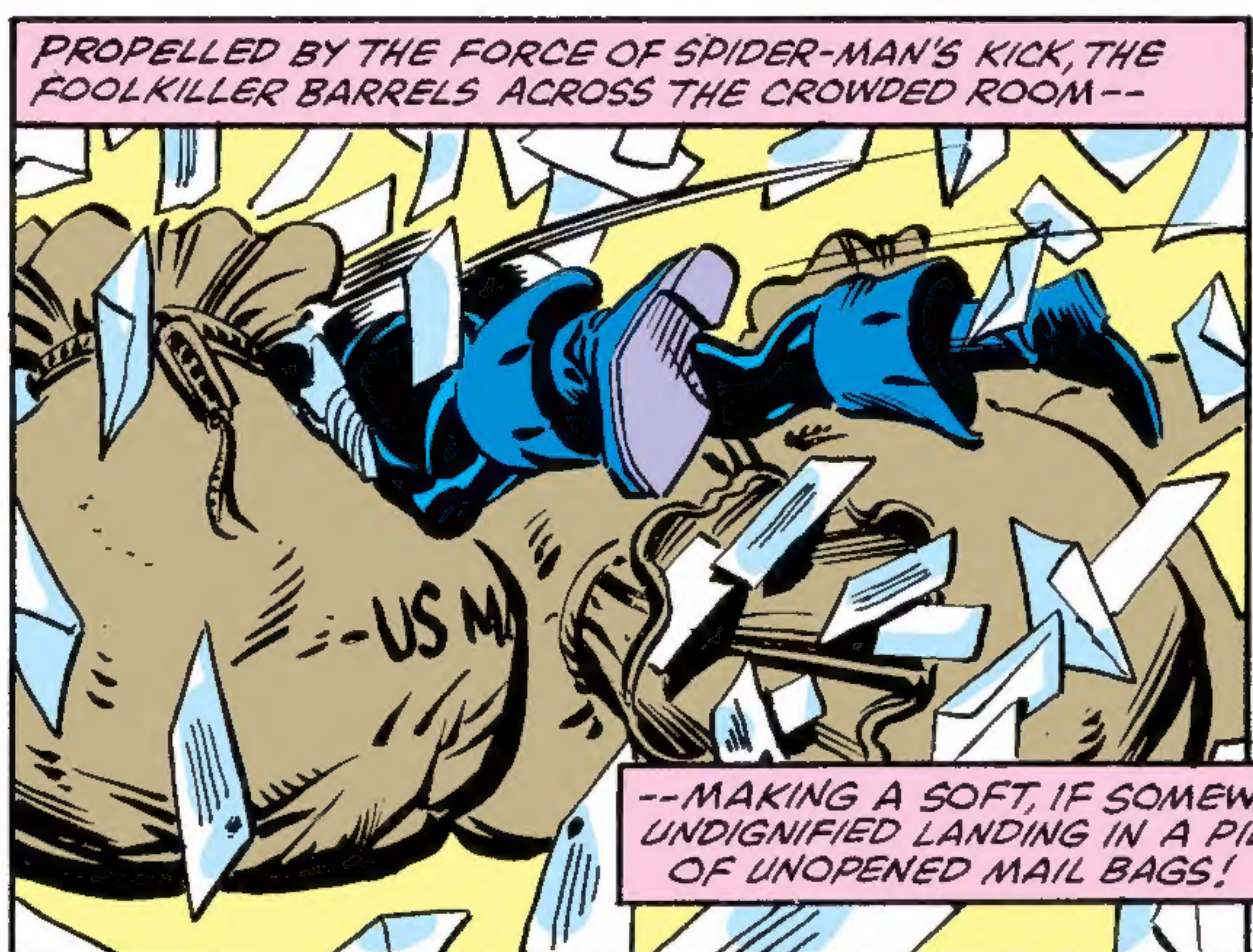
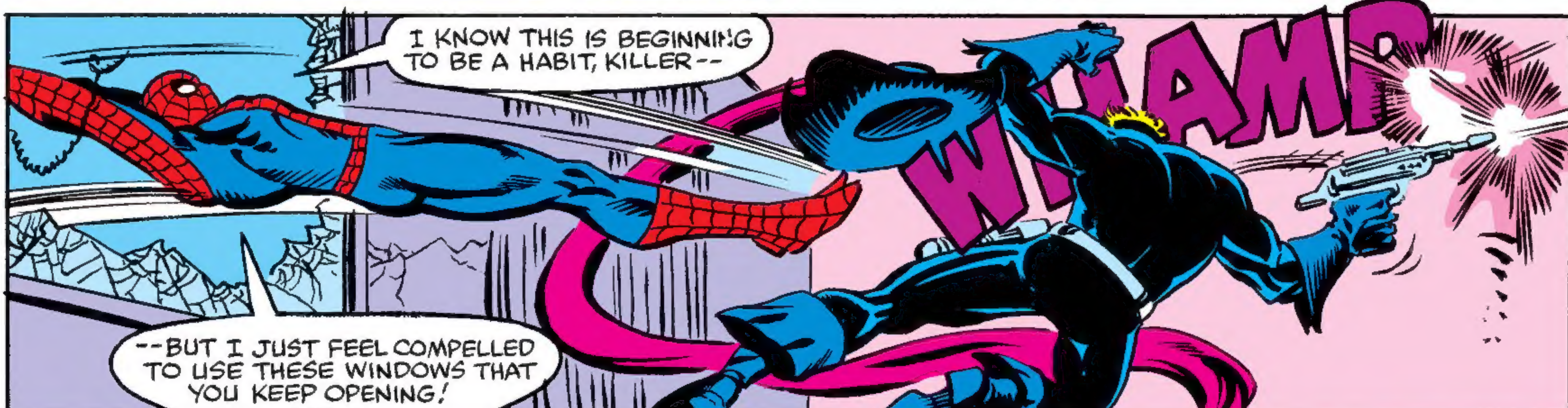
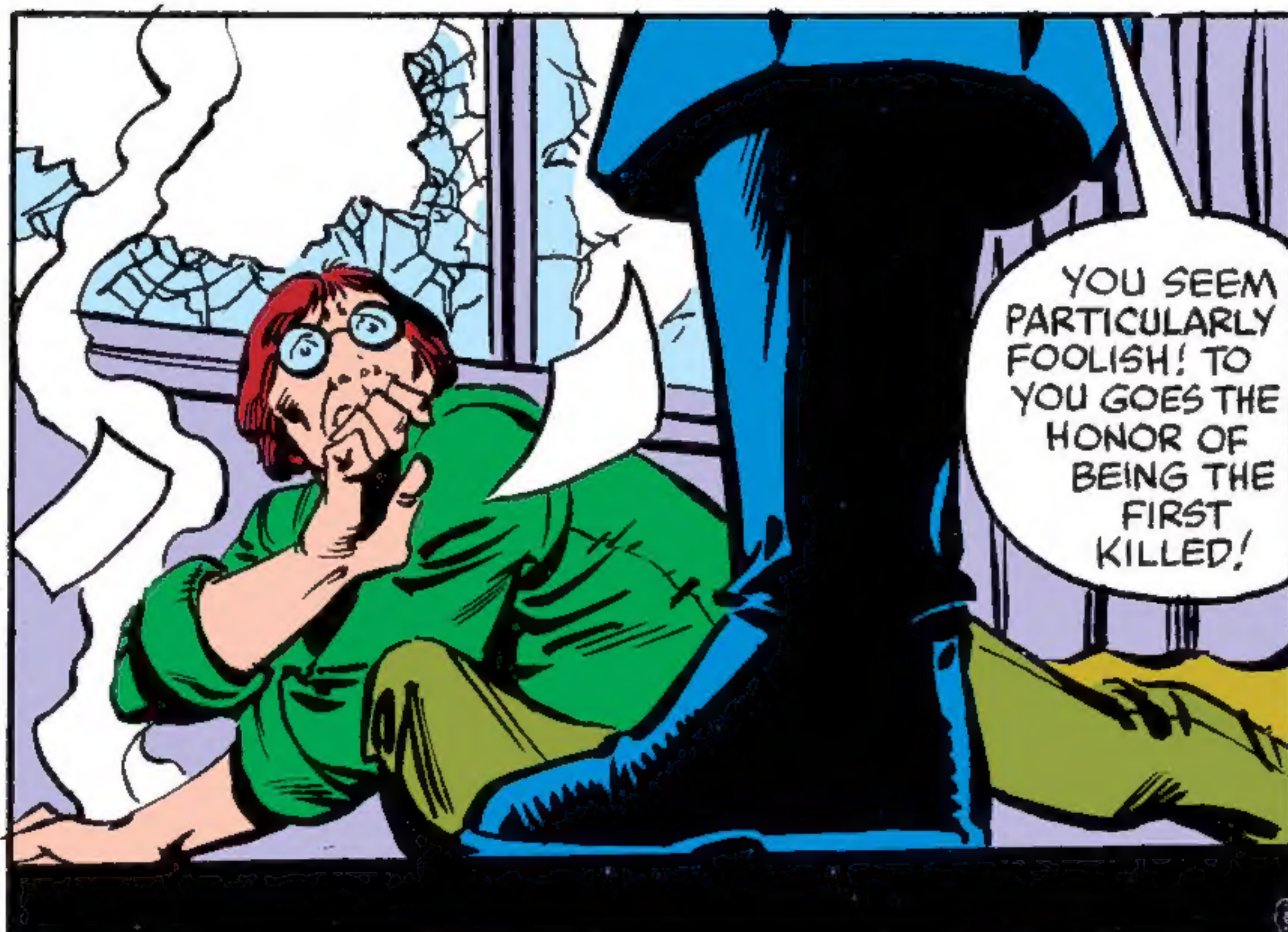




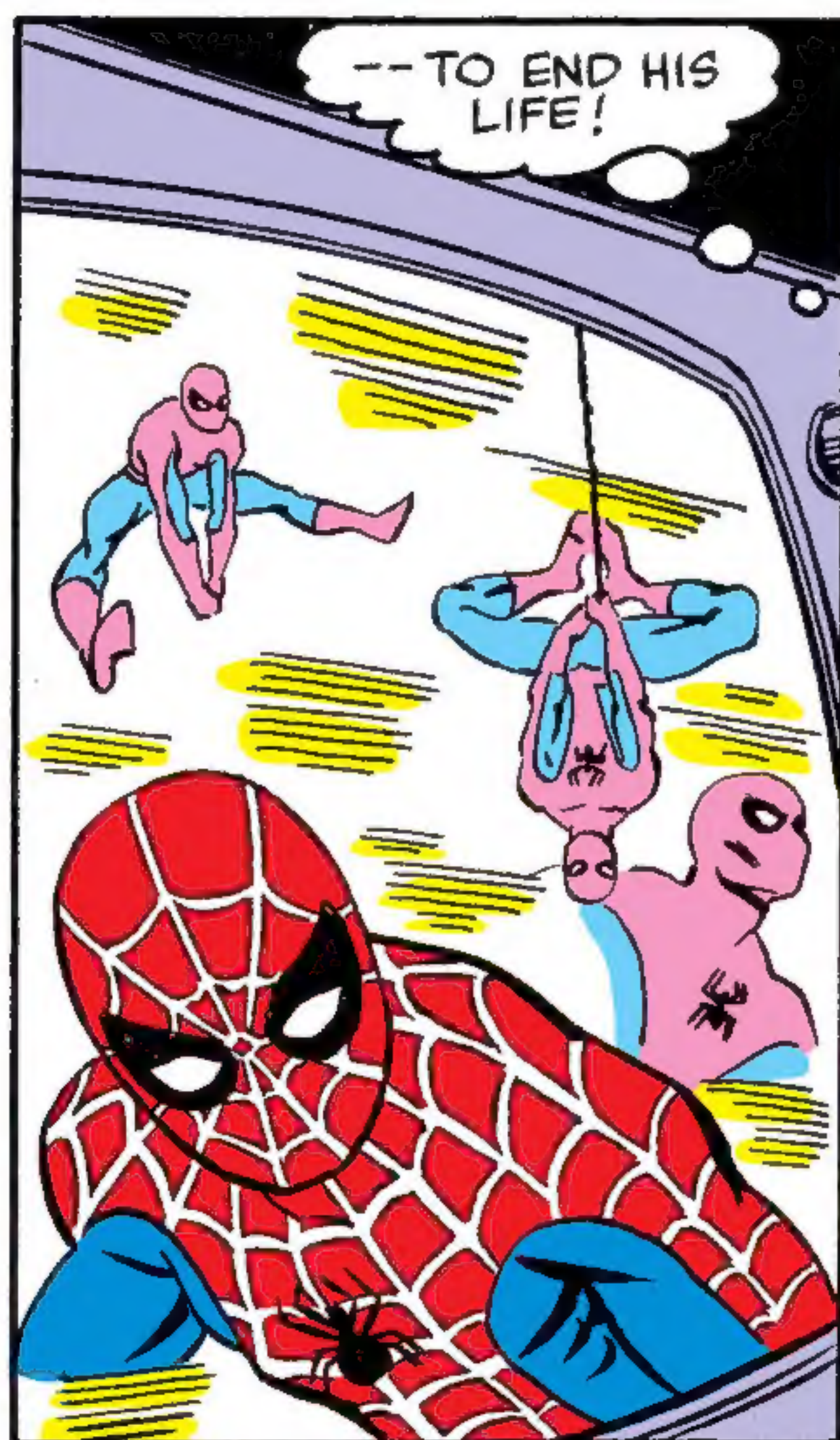
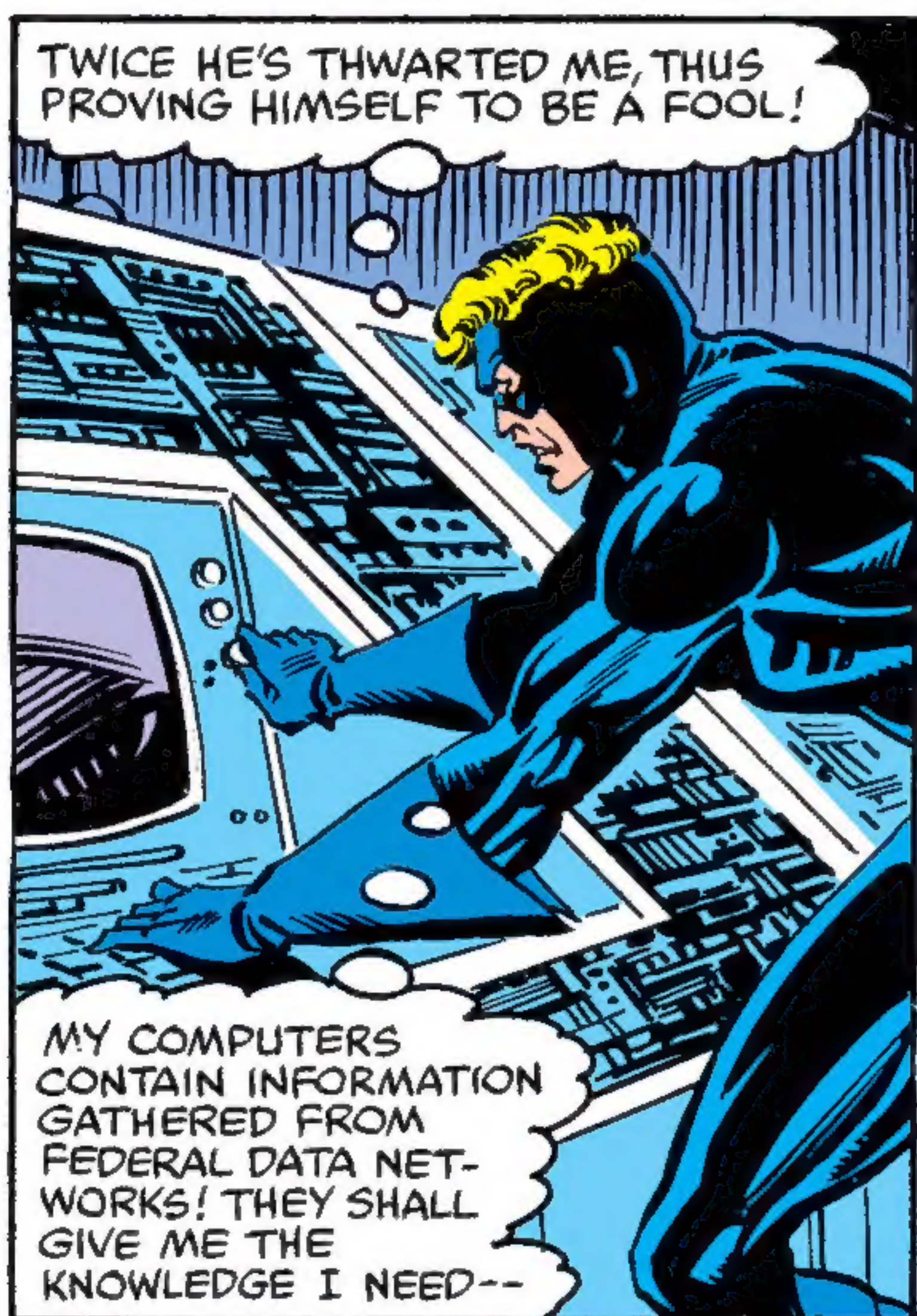




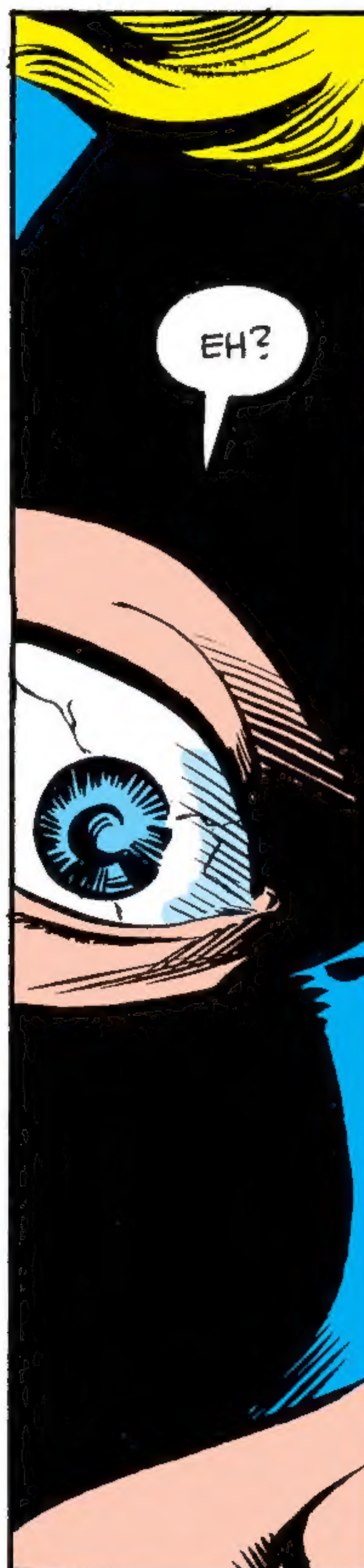
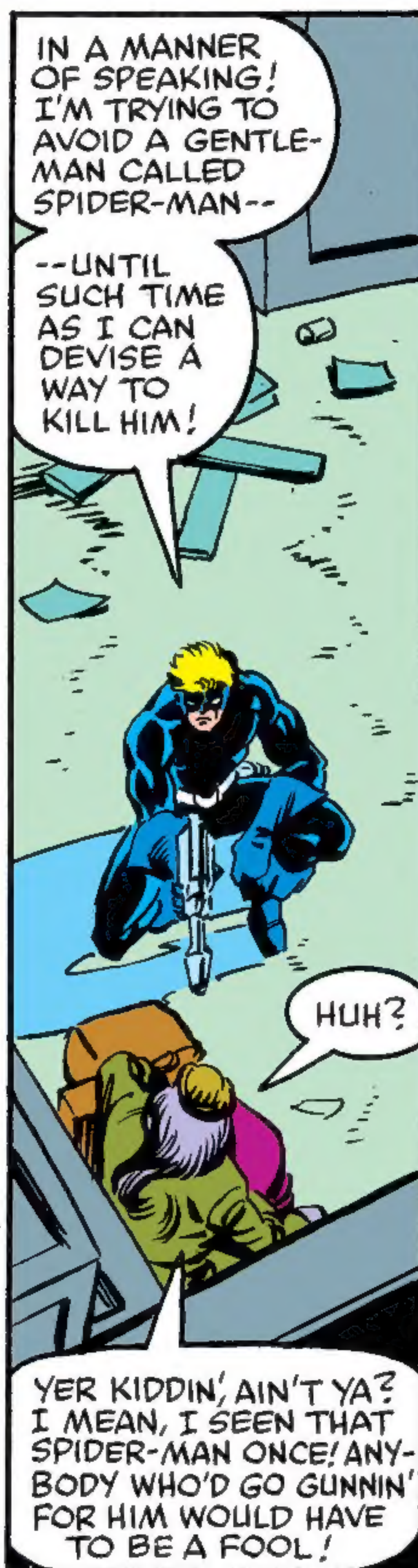
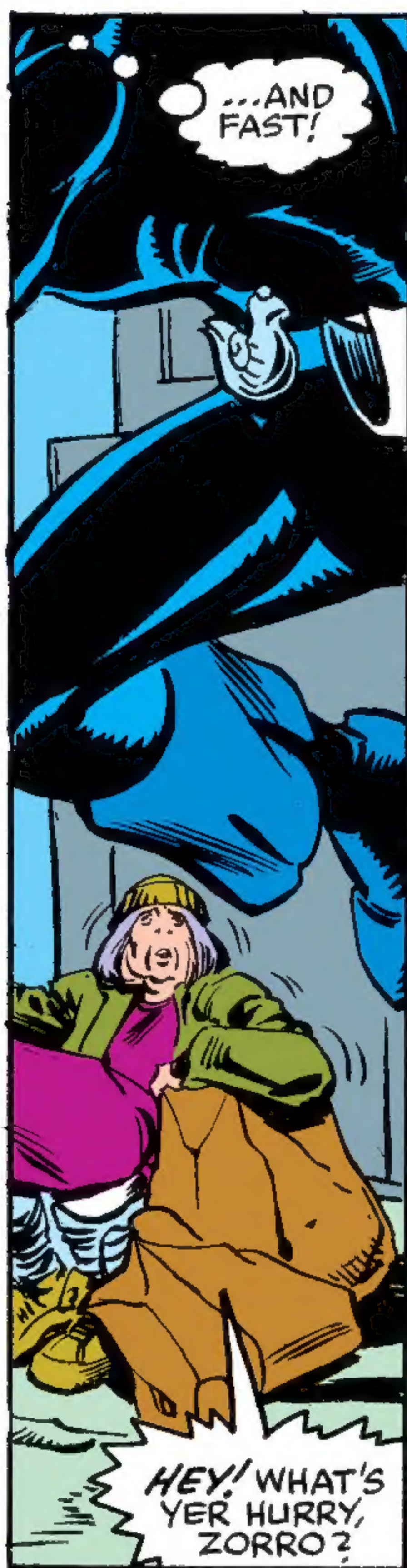
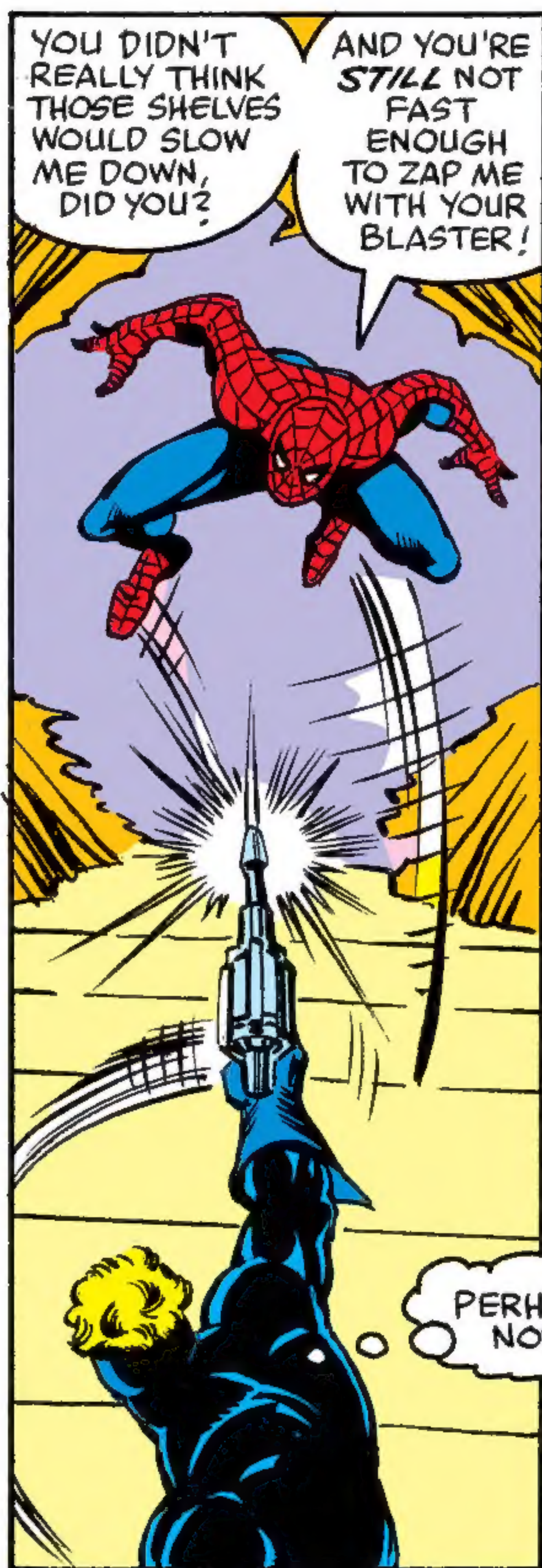




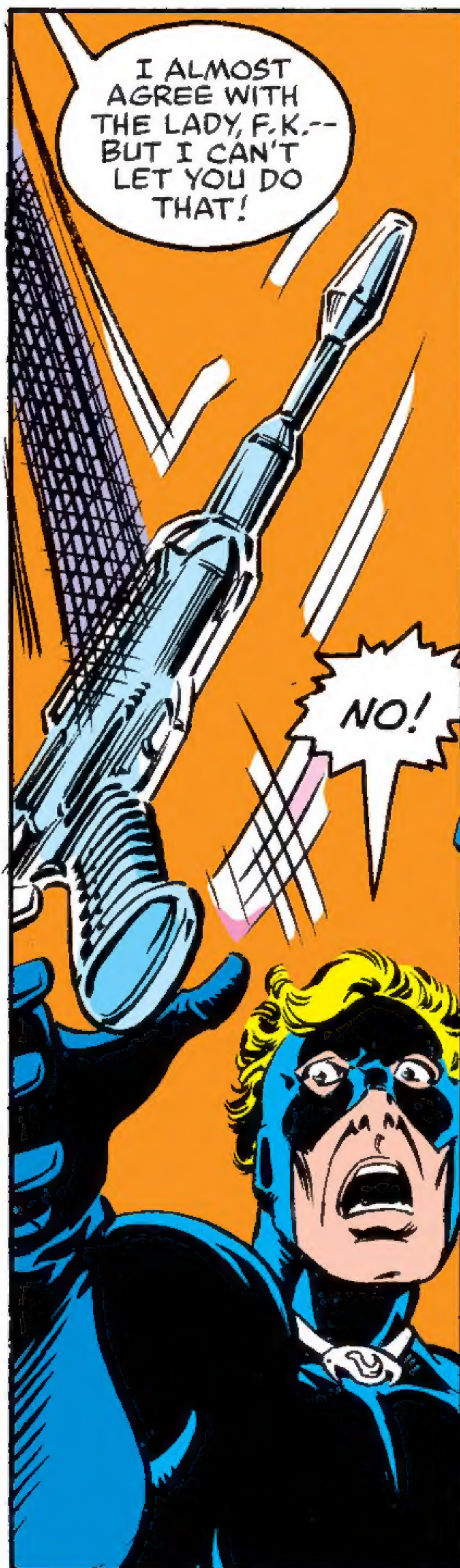










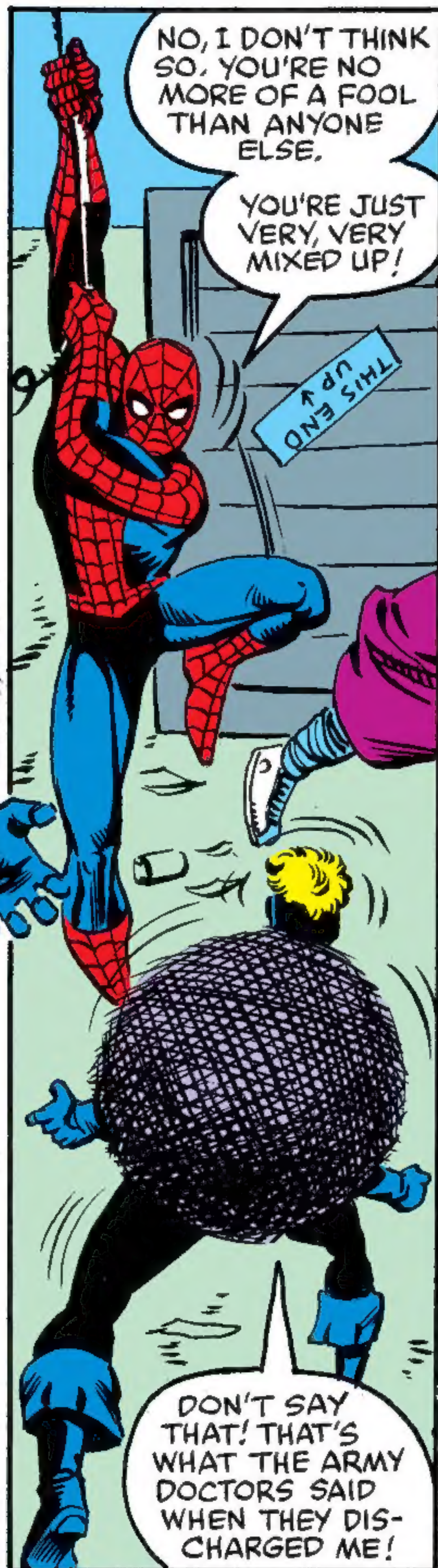


I ALMOST AGREE WITH THE LADY, F.K.-- BUT I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT!

NO!



DON'T DO THIS TO ME! YOU MUST LET ME KILL MYSELF! I'M A FOOL!



NO, I DON'T THINK SO. YOU'RE NO MORE OF A FOOL THAN ANYONE ELSE.

YOU'RE JUST VERY, VERY MIXED UP!

DON'T SAY THAT! THAT'S WHAT THE ARMY DOCTORS SAID WHEN THEY DISCHARGED ME!



ARMY DOCTORS! SALINGER TOLD ME THAT HE'D BEEN IN THE ARMY!

BUT THEN, I KNOW THIS IS GREG, DON'T I?

I'M NOT CRAZY... I'M A FOOL!

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TO PULL OFF HIS MASK.

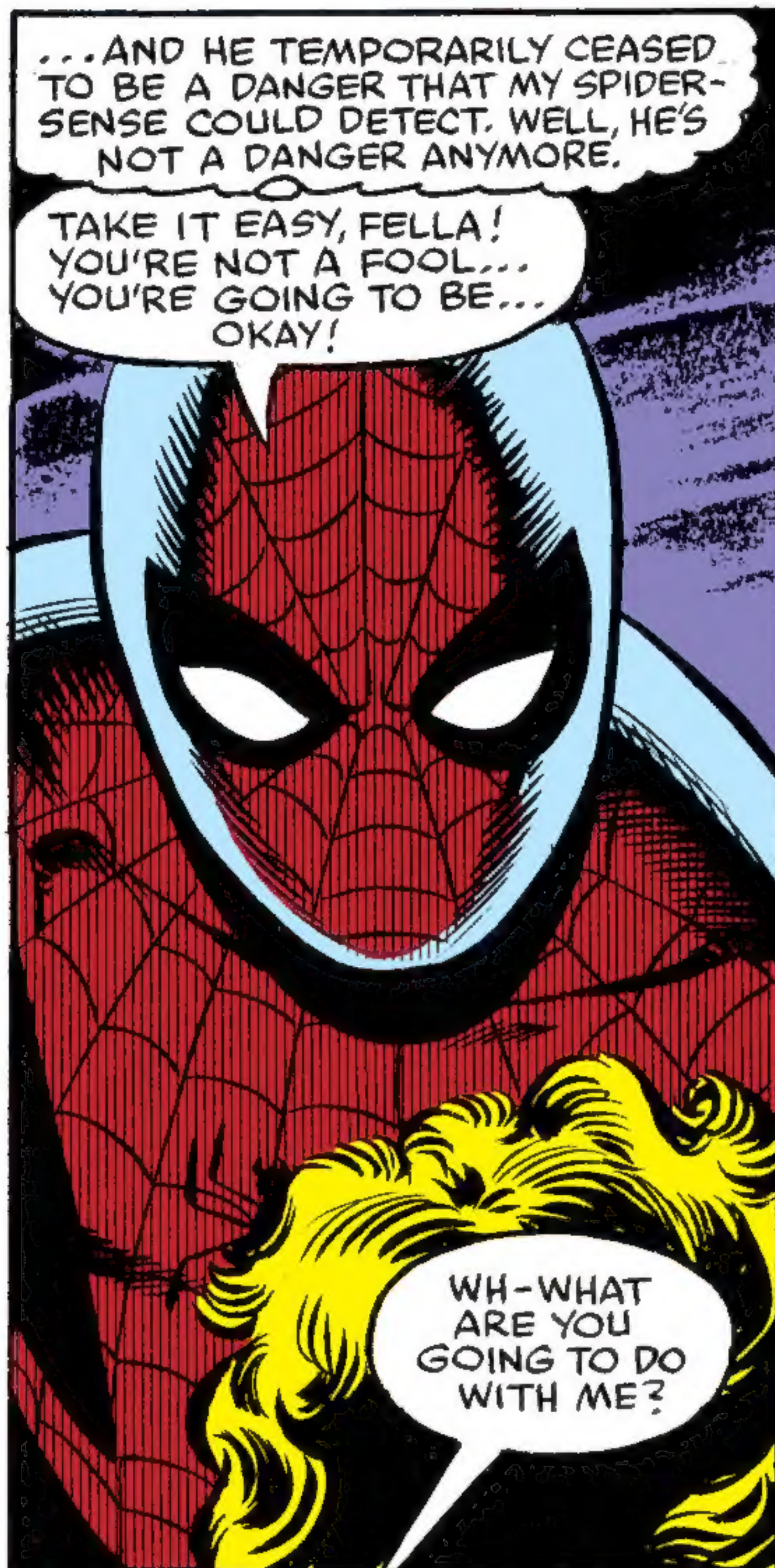
I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT THIS ISN'T GREG, BUT...



THIS ISN'T THE FACE OF A MADMAN! IT'S THE FACE OF A FOOL... A FOOL WHO MUST BE KILLED!

THE ONE TIME I WANTED TO BE WRONG, I HAD TO BE RIGHT!

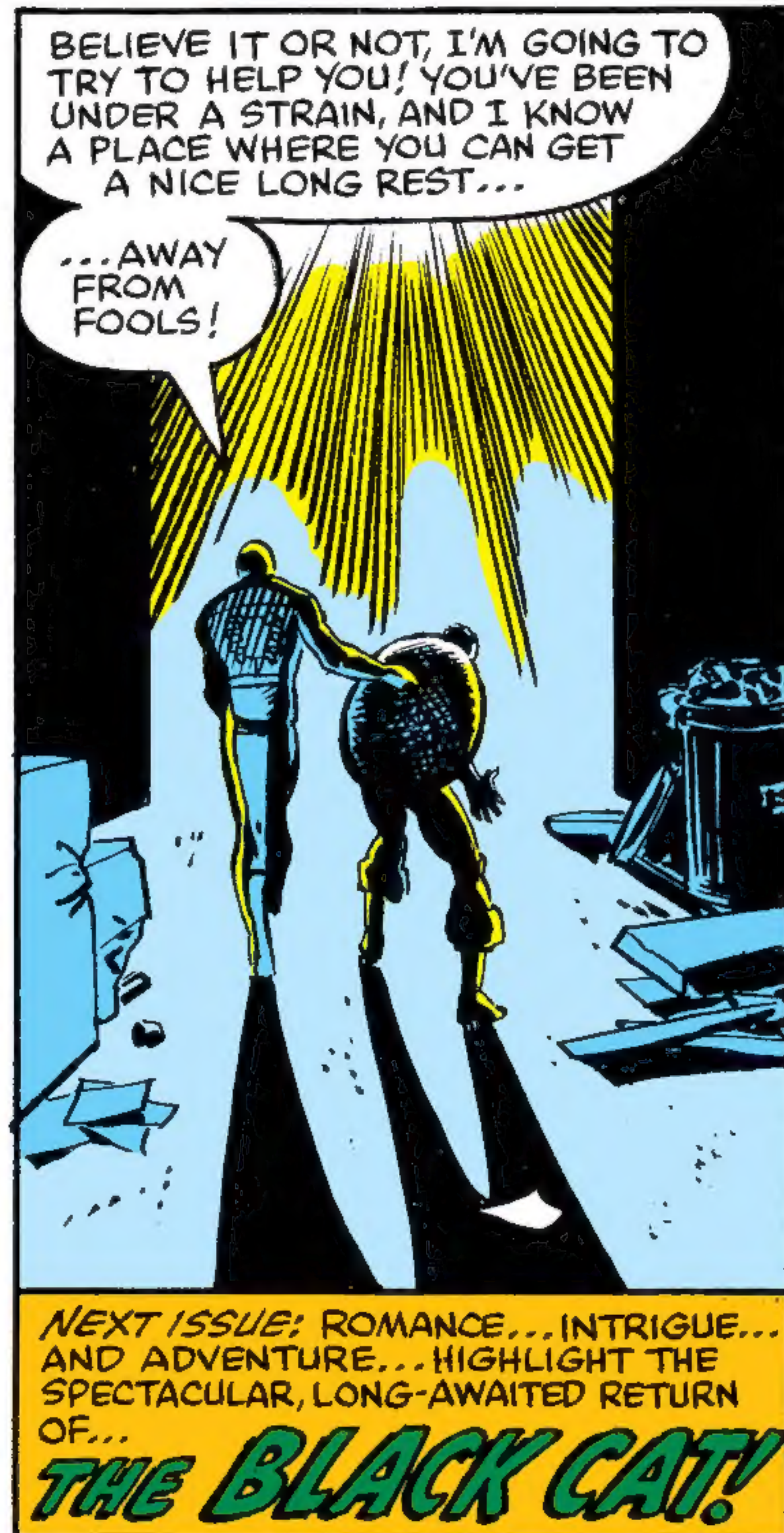
IT MAKES SENSE NOW! GREG LIKED PETER PARKER SO MUCH THAT WHENEVER HE SAW ME IN CIVVIES, HIS PSYCHOTIC HATE SUBSIDED...



...AND HE TEMPORARILY CEASED TO BE A DANGER THAT MY SPIDER-SENSE COULD DETECT. WELL, HE'S NOT A DANGER ANYMORE.

TAKE IT EASY, FELLA! YOU'RE NOT A FOOL... YOU'RE GOING TO BE... OKAY!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M GOING TO TRY TO HELP YOU! YOU'VE BEEN UNDER A STRAIN, AND I KNOW A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GET A NICE LONG REST...

...AWAY FROM FOOLS!

NEXT ISSUE: ROMANCE... INTRIGUE... AND ADVENTURE... HIGHLIGHT THE SPECTACULAR, LONG-AWAITED RETURN OF... **THE BLACK CAT!**